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# THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595  
VOLUME No. 56, ISSUE 12

**It's In Our Hands**  
The Chart investigates discrimination in race, religion, and sexual preference ...

Pages 8 & 9

## HELPING THE COMMUNITY



(From left) Student Senators Kim Jones, Sandy Flisk, and Lydia Meadows sing "Silent Night" Wednesday.

## A time for Sharing

### Healthy holiday in store for area needy

By GENIE UNDERNEHR  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For the second Christmas in a row, the departments in the school of technology are spreading cheer and the gift of giving by adopting several families in the community.

Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of the school, started adopting families when he became head of the criminal justice department.

"When I became the dean of the school of technology last year, I asked all the departments in the school if they were willing to adopt," he said.

Each department in the school (nursing, dental hygiene, CADD/CAM, computer science, and criminal justice) is adopting one family this year, totaling five families.

"Every department gets a family from the Division of Family Services," Spurlin said. "We prefer families with children, because that's what Christmas is for."

Spurlin said students and faculty bring in anything from gifts to food items, and they also try to raise money.

"We don't set goals," he said. "They provide a want and need list—like a child may want a remote-control car but he might need new shoes. We try to at least fill the want and need list."

Spurlin said the project also helps bring the departments together.

"Because our departments are so different, we try to do things to create unity," he said. "This is one of those unity things, and we have gotten a really good response. I think this gives the students in technology the chance to feel a part of the community."

Last Christmas, the criminal justice department raised

approximately \$500 for needy families.

Last year, we raised so much for our families that they (Division of Family Services) were able to give items to several additional families."

Spurlin said Division of Family Services employees dress up as Santa Claus and three or four elves and make trips to the families' homes to deliver the gifts.

"They (the families) sent us some photos and cards last year," he said. "It touches your hearts. They wrote some really nice thank-you notes."

Spurlin said the departments usually start collecting items the week of Thanksgiving and continue until finals are over.

"Anyone interested in helping a needy family can send cash or a check or any item to the criminal justice department," he said. "It will be appreciated."

Spurlin said the faculty are the ones who make the program work by getting fired up and encouraging the students to participate.

"It's a shame we don't do more of these things all the time," he said. "This is a people profession. These students have the personality, they want to do things for mankind. You don't choose to be a police officer or a nurse for the salary."

Other departments and organizations across the campus are doing special projects for Christmas. The Social Science Club is also adopting a family.

Twenty members of the Student Senate went on its traditional Christmas-caroling tour across Joplin Wednesday.

"We went to nursing homes and a mental-retardation home this year," said Jill Bever, junior senator. "It was a lot of fun. They don't always get to celebrate the joys of Christmas, and I'm glad we were able to bring a little joy into their hearts." □

## MAJOR EVENTS CENTER

### Polls reveal growing support for proposal

By RICK ROGERS  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The major events center proposal could see the election polls as early as February. College President Julio Leon said in a press conference Wednesday, however, that he could not predict whether the center would go before the voters this spring.

"What we are going to do is present the results of the survey for the major events center to the steering committee," Leon said. "We will call another meeting at some time so we can ascertain whether they would recommend to the Board of Regents to proceed or not."

"That is the first procedure that has to be made," Leon said even if the Board of Regents decides to put the issue on the ballot, one question still needs to be answered.

"What voters are we going to ask," he said. "Are we going to ask the voters of Jasper County, or are we going to ask the voters of Joplin?"

"Then, when they make that recommendation, positive or negative to the Board of Regents, we will call a special meeting of the Board of Regents about when they want to proceed with the recommendation."

At the end of the survey, respondents were asked once again whether they would support a three-eighths of a cent sales tax proposal to pay

for a major events center. Fifty-eight percent of Jasper County residents were in favor of a sales tax, while 60 percent of Joplin respondents gave it a thumbs-up.

Leon said the \$25 million facility, which would house concerts, conventions, rodeos, circuses, and all Southern indoor athletic events, would have only a positive effect on the College and the community.

"We are talking millions and millions of dollars of benefits to the community," he said. "I don't need to tell you what the economic impact of this facility could be."

Even though the first attempt to bring a major events center to Joplin failed in 1992 by more than 2,000 votes, Leon thinks the outcome could be different this time.

"The way people feel about the economy in Joplin is positive," he said. "In Joplin, 79 percent feel the economy is in a positive light. Back in 1992, we were in a recession and now people feel totally different about the economy in this area."

Dr. John Tiede, Southern's senior vice president, said another important aspect of putting the proposal on the spring ballot is to boost student interest among those who live in Jasper County and Joplin.

"That is definitely something we are looking at," Tiede said. "Even though a lot of college students don't vote, that would definitely be an advantage." □

## FINANCIAL AID

### Area receives College well

By RICK ROGERS  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A public opinion survey has revealed that Joplin and Jasper County residents have high regard for Missouri Southern but only lukewarm support for a proposed major events center on campus.

The survey's results were released Wednesday during a press conference in the Billingsly Student Center.

Altitude Research Company (ARC) of St. Louis conducted the survey of 400 Jasper County and Joplin residents beginning Nov. 14. Dr. Rodney Wright, president of ARC, said the phone interviews polled only registered voters and screened out those who were unlikely to vote. The survey also polled Joplin residents who reside in Newton County.

Fifty-eight percent of Jasper County respondents and 60 percent of Joplin respondents said they would support a three-eighths-cent sales tax proposal to fund the events center.

The 78-question interview also asked about the overall outlook on Missouri Southern as a whole. Wright said the feedback from the survey was nothing but "good news for the College."

"The numbers we have show that the College is tremendously well-received in the community," he said. "It is hard for me to think of any work we've done for an educational institution where the numbers are this positive across the board."

When asked to rate the quality of educational institutions, 80.8 percent of respondents said Southern was excellent or good. In comparison, 65.8 percent said Pittsburg State University was excellent or good, 54.8 percent said the University of Missouri-Columbia was excellent or good, and 49.3 percent said Southwest Missouri

State University was excellent or good.

Wright said besides the educational value the College brings to the community, the survey also shows the importance of Southern as far as entertainment to area residents. Within the past year, 35 percent of respondents said they had attended a Southern athletic event. Another 35 percent had been to the College for a concert, and 11 percent had attended a theatre production.

"All of these numbers show the remarkable and successful penetration into the community by the College," Wright said, "and how Missouri Southern does a good job serving a broader community and not just the students on campus."

ARC made the following conclusions regarding a major events center:

■ If an election on the sales-tax proposal had been held at the time survey field work was completed, the results would have been very close, regardless of whether the election was Joplin-wide or Jasper County-wide.

■ As well regarded as Southern seems to be in Joplin and Jasper County, its popularity will not necessarily translate into support for the events center, should the College throw its weight behind the proposal.

■ Only 19 percent of respondents agreed strongly with the statement "we should do more to support the athletic programs at Missouri Southern," and not even half (43.8 percent) agreed somewhat with the statement.

■ As an argument for building an events center, Southern's having outgrown Young Gymnasium received a relatively lukewarm reception, as did the fact of the College taking the lead in managing and operating the arena.

■ A firm majority found at least somewhat convincing the statement that, while supporting the College, they had a problem with tax increases, and that Southern should find another way to pay for the center. □

## INTERNET

### 'Home Page' set for Net in January

#### World Wide Web will bring College's Net up to speed

By MICHAEL DAVISON  
ARTS EDITOR

Netscape, Web Server, and the "Web" may sound like something out of a Spiderman comic strip, but they are part of the new technology at Missouri Southern.

A World Wide Web server and browser, tools for accessing the Internet, will be fully operational by Jan. 1, with memory updates for local area networks (LANs) to speed up the computers.

"We see it as part of the education process," said Steve Earney, assistant vice president for information services. "The 'Web' has become ubiquitous, and it is something students need to learn about. It's also the software that people want to use."

"The main catalyst for this project was [College President Julio] Leon, who made it our top priority in March or April."

Netscape Navigator is software which allows users to "surf the Net" in an easy, non-structured fashion, Earney said. It is

also the market leader in Web browsers and is easy to run under Windows.

"This software also has really good graphics, so students can see, for example, the work of art they might be doing research on," he said. "But it could also be beneficial for instructors as well, because they could get a graphic from the system, save it to their hard drive, and design a lecture using those graphics."

One of the problems facing the new access software is speed, but that problem will be eliminated with an upgrade for the Internet connection which is six times faster than the current 56K line used primarily for electronic mail.

"During the Net's prime time between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., the whole net slows down because there are so many users," Earney said. "But if you use it during off hours, this memory upgrade will make the program really fly."

The growth in popularity is not something Clayton Lindsey, senior computer information science major and new staff member of the computer center, is surprised by.

"The Internet is more user friendly," he said. "Once you see the Web, you will not be surprised that it is growing so much."

Web users can "visit" other countries, although with some difficulty. During a brief demonstration, Earney accessed Australia but encountered some difficulties.

"This is a backbone for information in the U.S., paid for and maintained by the government," he said, "but when you go somewhere outside the U.S., satellite links will slow you down during the peak times."

A Web "home page" for Southern, which will allow other institutions and individuals to learn more about the College, is being put together by the public information office.

"I've consulted as many people as possible," said Rod Surber, news bureau manager, "including other institutes as well. I just received an E-mail from someone who called himself 'Web Master In Training,' so there are others out there in the same boat." According to Surber, plans to have the "home page" up and running by Jan. 1 are on schedule.

"We've never been down this road before," he said. "It just remains to be seen. We will have something by Jan. 1, though."

Using "hypertext," a combination of text and graphics, the Web Server is basically an on-line publication. □

## THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB

### Southern and the World Wide Web



World Wide Web should be available at Missouri Southern by January 1996.

The Web Server will provide us with the capability to produce "Web" or "Home Pages," which is essentially on-line publishing using "hypertext," a combination of text and graphics — even voice and video.

A Web Browser is the software that provides the ability to "surf the net" in an easy, intuitive, non-structured fashion. Netscape Navigator, the market leader in Web Browsers, will be provided via local area networks (LANs) on campus.

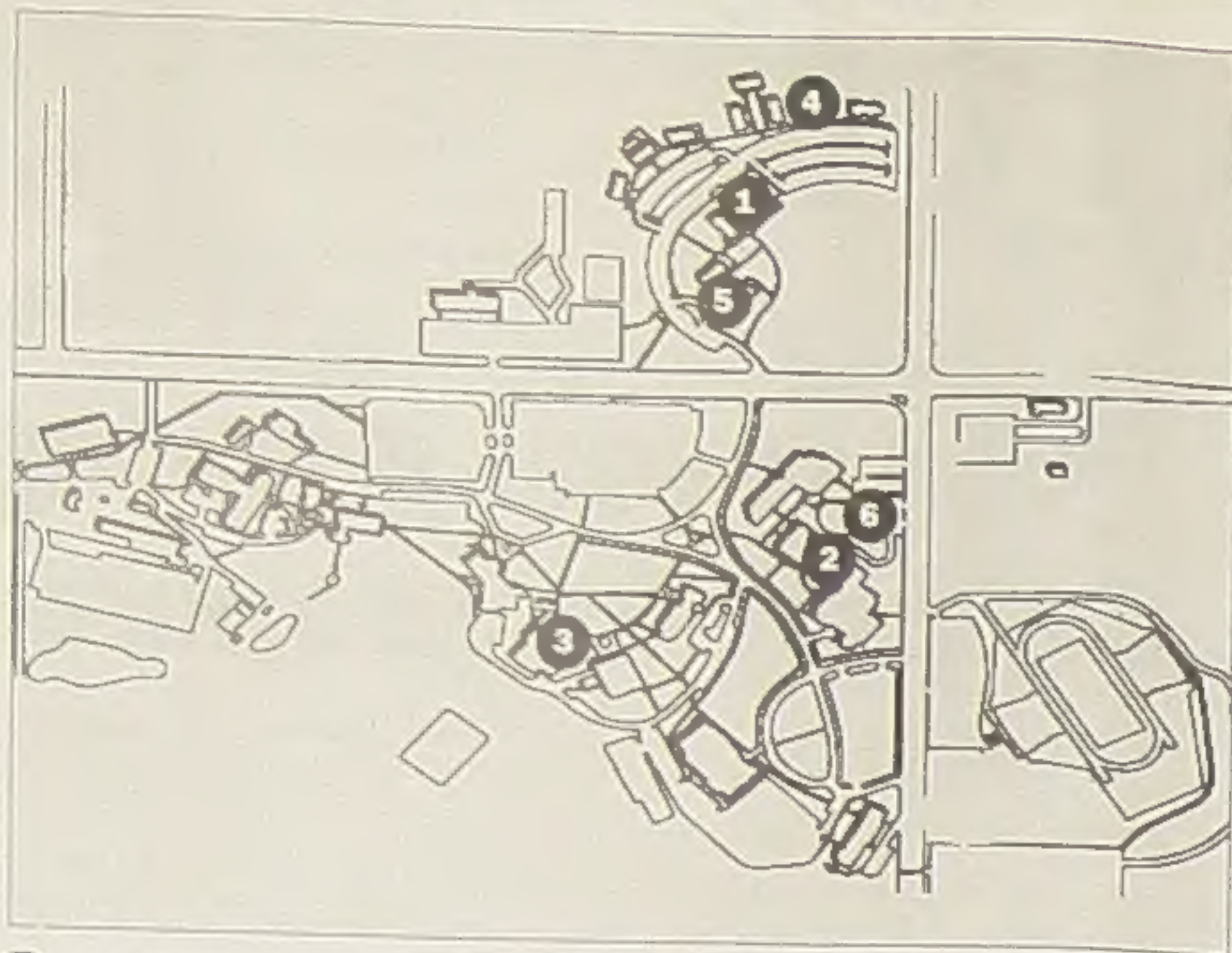
The College has ordered an upgrade for its Internet connection that is six times faster than the current 56K (56,000 bits per second) line that is used primarily for electronic mail. This upgrade is necessary in that web browsing consumes bandwidth quickly because of its graphical nature.

Source: Steve Earney

THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB THE WEB



## SECURITY REPORT



- 1 11/22/95 BLAINE HALL 4:10 p.m. A student reported the theft of his 1990 Schwinn 21-speed bicycle. He had last seen the bicycle when he parked it at the bike racks as Blaine Hall but did not chain it. The bicycle is valued at \$500.
- 2 11/29/95 SPIVA GALLERY 11:30 a.m. A maintenance person reported vandalism to the bathroom area of the third floor. Seven ceramic tile on the wall had been broken or cracked.
- 3 12/1/95 REYNOLDS HALL 11:30 a.m. Campus security was called regarding an ill student who was conscious but acting very incoherent. The Joplin Emergency Medical Services was called and the patient was taken to the hospital.
- 4 12/5/95 MAUPIN HALL 7: a.m. Campus security was contacted in reference to an exterior light torn off the building. The wires had been shorted intentionally.
- 5 12/5/95 MCCORMICK HALL 4:30 p.m. Two female students residing in the residence hall reported jewelry items stolen from their residence hall room. Both women stated they had last seen the items on Nov. 21 before leaving for Thanksgiving break.
- 6 12/6/95 PHINNEY HALL 5:20 p.m. A janitor reported a woman having a seizure in room 208 and said he had called an ambulance. Upon arrival, campus security found the woman in a catatonic state. The Joplin Fire Department and Joplin Emergency Medical Service arrived and transported the patient to St. John's Hospital.

## SOUTHERN CROSSROADS

## Staff to publish 7th issue

Magazine to feature column by alumnus Dennis Weaver

By TONYA PRINCE  
STAFF WRITER

**S**outhern Crossroads, which replaced the yearbook at Missouri Southern, is now coming out with its seventh issue.

The yearbook which lacked a huge following was replaced by Crossroads because it was believed that a magazine might better serve communication majors, said Jean Campbell, Crossroads adviser.

Experience on a magazine seemed like it would be an applicable experience to learn, Campbell said.

Environment is the main focus of the next issue of Southern Crossroads, which should be available to readers this week.

"It is a memory-type thing," said Craig Beffa, managing editor of Southern Crossroads. "This issue is the first magazine I have worked on, and it has been a learning process for me."

A smaller staff completed this issue of Crossroads, but Beffa said the magazine is improving and the production went well.

"One of the neat things is our out-

standing alumnus, Dennis Weaver, has prepared a guest article," Campbell said.

"Even though some still wish the College still produced the yearbook, Southern Crossroads is more practical and more important to have because it gives people a chance to have hands-on experience working on a magazine," Beffa said.

The issue planned for the spring semester will focus on sex.

"I wanted to do something on the minds of every single college student," Beffa said.

"The magazine is still fresh, improving, and the goal for the next issue is to come close to publishing an 80-page issue." □

## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## Advisory council gives support

By JASON HAIRE  
CHART REPORTER

**B**eginning with a breakfast meeting in 1987, the Student Athletics Advisory Council has grown into a 13-member organization that helps make decisions affecting student athletes.

In 1994 the group was formally named, and two meetings were held during the year.

"The Student Athletics Advisory Council was started so that the athletic directors could get a direct relationship with the student athletes' lives and academics," said president Bryce Darnell.

Darnell, a senior baseball player, is in his second year as president of the council.

"I enjoy working on the council," he said. "Last year we organized a reading day for pre-school kids, where we had athletes reading stories to kids at local schools."

At the council meetings members

*"I enjoy working on the council. Last year, we organized a reading day for preschool kids where we had athletes reading stories to kids at local schools."*

Bryce Darnell  
Senior council member

propose ideas to improve the activities that surround athletics and organize functions to support the athletic department.

"We organized a function where all of the athletes could get together and cheer for Southern at a volleyball game on Nov. 1," Darnell said.

The council consists of 13 members, from 11 athletic groups. Jim Frazier, men's athletic director, has high regard for the council.

"I get an opportunity to meet ath-

letes and help with their needs," he said. "I enjoy the meetings."

The council, though, is not yet an official campus organization. With a constitution of its own, members hope the group receives the designation.

"We're not trying to put ourselves on a pedestal or receive special privileges," Darnell said.

"We are a group with a certain interest or subject, like a foreign language group." □

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

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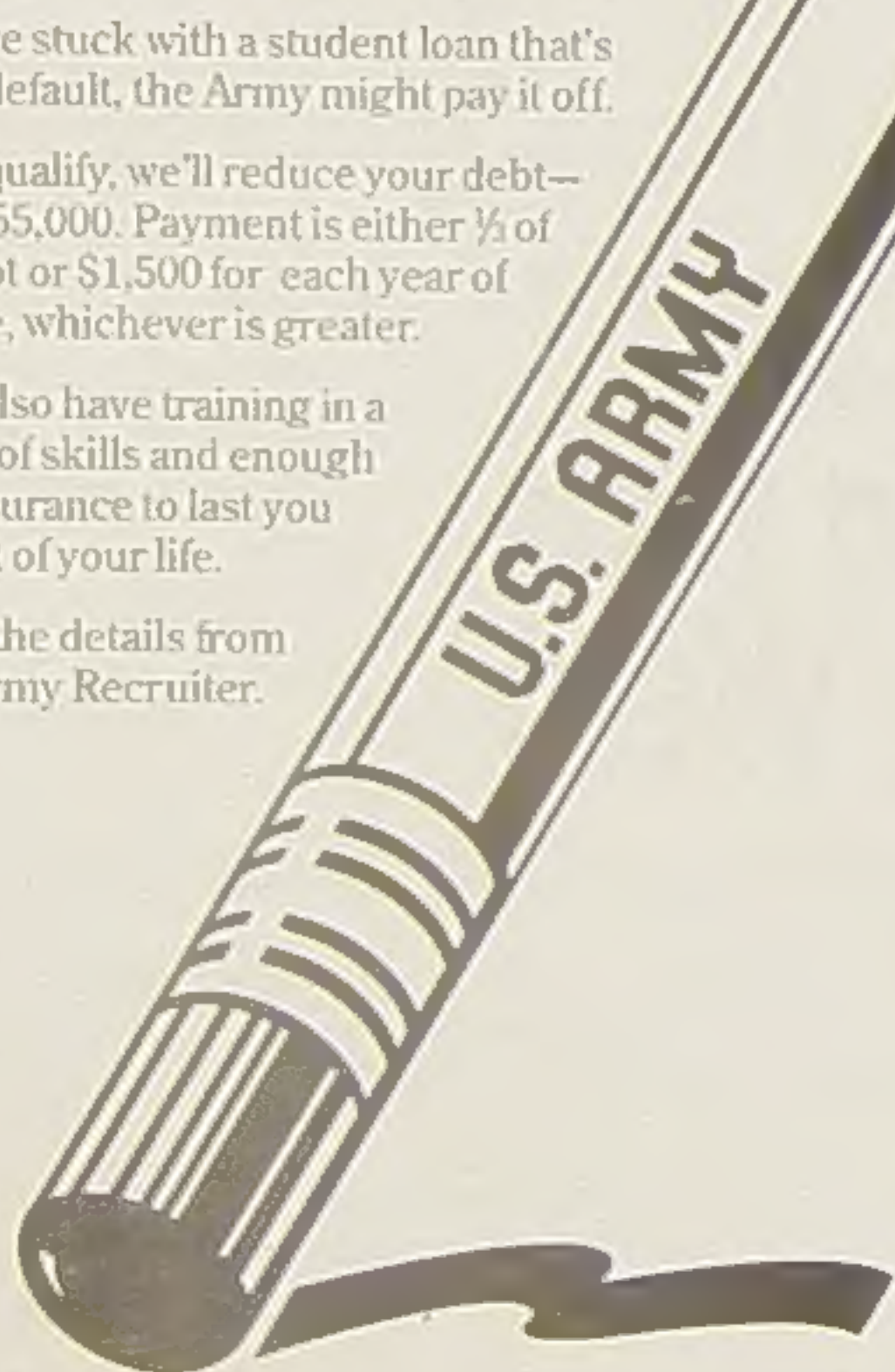
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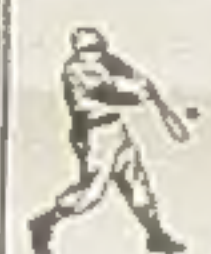
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FINANCIAL AID

# Gilbert 'surprised' by national honor

Aid director keeps goals in perspective despite 'hero' label

By STEPHANIE GOAD  
STAFF WRITER

Commended for his efforts in the Direct Loan Program, Jim Gilbert recently accepted an award from the U.S. Department of Education on behalf of Missouri Southern.

Gilbert, director of student financial aid at Southern, was presented the award at the fall Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel (MASFAP) conference on Nov. 13 at the Lodge of the Four Seasons on the Lake of the Ozarks.

According to Mark Walsh, regional director of the Federal Direct Loan Program, Gilbert was instrumental in Southern's achievement.

"Jim has assumed a leadership role in training other financial aid administrators," Walsh said. "Even

people from other states have called on him for technical guidance.

"Essentially, for the past 30 years, the loan process involved banks and financial institutions," Walsh said. "Now, under this new program, the Department of Education becomes the lender to the students—from the federal government to the schools. All funds are now transferred electronically."

Walsh said the program began in 1994-95 with 104 schools nationwide participating.

"Missouri Southern has been a very strong support for the Direct Loan Program," he said. "Top officials are obviously behind it or they wouldn't be participating."

Walsh said the number of institutions participating has increased from 104 to 1,350 this year.

"Missouri Southern is a leader among schools," he said. "Jim in particular was a tremendous resource of information and technical expertise."

Gilbert said he doesn't consider himself to be a hero in the matter.

"One thing I can quote from Gen. [H. Norman] Schwarzkopf is a point he made that heroes aren't born and leaders aren't born; situations make heroes and leaders. And in this particular case I don't consider myself a hero, but I have had the opportunity to take charge and implement things because of leadership, and because of that leadership, we have been able to implement the program throughout the country and it saved the country billions of dollars."

"It feels good to be able to sit back and say we performed the necessary task in the right circumstance at the right time," Gilbert said.

According to Walsh, the Department of Education sent some of its staff members on "externships" to Southern.

"Some of our staff spent a week working with Jim and learning how the program works," he said.

Gilbert said the program has proven successful.

"It's so successful that President Clinton is currently fighting the Budget Reconciliation Act to keep

"I was very surprised because the Department of Education doesn't pass out awards to anybody."

Jim Gilbert  
Director of financial aid



direct loans as an entitlement program," he said.

Gilbert also said the program is not only accurate, but expedient as well.

"It is saving the federal government billions of dollars," he said. "It's worked so well that it has allowed us to reengineer the finan-

cial aid office to make it provide better services to students."

Gilbert said although he played a big role in Southern receiving the award Nov. 13, it came as a surprise.

"I was very surprised because the Department of Education doesn't pass out awards to anybody." □

## SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

ISEP applications due Jan. 17 in Hearnes Hall

The deadline for turning in applications for the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) will be Jan. 17, 1996. Students wishing to study abroad through ISEP in the 1996-97 school year must turn in their applications by this day to Nadine Schmidt in the Academic Affairs office, Hearnes Hall 200, 625-9555.

Students intending to apply for the ISEP program must pick up an application packet from the Academic Affairs office.

Before submitting an application, students are advised to visit with their academic advisers to discuss study abroad plans in light of degree requirements.

Applicants are also advised to research the institutions they are considering for their study abroad experience.

Catalogs of all ISEP member institutions are available in microfiche in the Spiva Library Reference Section.

ISEP is an exchange program which allows U. S. students to study abroad for a semester or a year at more than 100 colleges and universities located throughout the world.

Study opportunities are available in many fields and instruction is offered in many languages. Students pay their usual tuition, room, and board rates to their home institution in U. S. currency.

Financial aid is applicable, and credit transfers can be arranged for study abroad courses. For more information, please contact Schmidt at the office and number listed above. □

## Jackson completes science internship

Scott Jackson, senior biology major from Miller, Mo., completed a marine science internship from Aug. 14 through Sept. 30 at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Fla., in the Sea Turtle Conservation/Research Program.

Jackson was fortunate to be able to finish his internship through cooperation with Mote at the Florida Keys from Oct. 1 through Oct. 16 at the National Marine Sanctuary, Nature Conservancy, at Marathon, Fla., in a special research project involving the Queen Conch shell species.

His internship was a tremendous learning experience toward his goal of becoming a marine biologist and was made possible due to the cooperation and support of Missouri Southern's biology department. □

## H.E. Williams, Southern announce partnership

H. E. Williams and Missouri Southern are pleased to announce a partnership involving the H.E. Williams Engineering Department and the Missouri Southern School of Technology.

Students in the Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) and Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM) programs at Southern are serving as interns for H. E. Williams. The interns receive college hours, wages, and valuable job-related experience in a real-world business environment.

The H.E. Williams Engineering Department benefits while the interns gain experience. Preparing part drawings, confirming part construction, entering data, and preparing drawings for advances in technology are part of the interns' responsibilities.

Students currently employed by Williams through the program are Dottie Byssor and Brian Weaver. Byssor, a 1991 Carthage High graduate, and Weaver, a 1994 graduate of Liberal High School, will continue in the program through this fall and the upcoming spring semester.

H.E. Williams, a manufacturer of industrial and commercial fluorescent lighting products, is privately owned and located in Carthage. H.E. Williams has set sales records in 1995 with sales in excess of \$38 million. □

## HIGHER EDUCATION

"The pressure to produce good grades drives them to cheat."

# Is there cheating at Southern?

By MICHAEL DAVISON  
ARTS EDITOR

Need an A on a test? A term paper? Is your grade-point average in a state of free fall but you don't have the time or the energy to raise it?

Perhaps one Missouri Southern student out there can help you, not with tutoring, but with that paper or answers to the final exam on which you need a good grade.

"I basically provide a service, and they have a need," said a student speaking on the condition of anonymity. "It's the American way."

With finals next week and the pressure of making the grade, students might look to illegal and unethical methods to bolster their efforts.

"In the past I have gotten answers before the test, glanced at the test next to me, and sold papers," the anonymous student said. "I even sold grade cards in high school: \$10 unsigned and \$20 signed."

"The pressure to produce good grades drives people to cheat," the student said. "They think they can't succeed, so they look elsewhere."

He believes the College has a double standard when it comes to higher learning.

"It has gone from learning something to making the grade," the student said. "If you learn something just by memory and then just forget it, it's just as bad as cheating, because you didn't learn anything."

"It's very subjective, in my opinion, if you get an old test. The question in that case is if it cheating or is it a study guide," he said. "And then you always have Cliff Notes to help you with a paper."

The faculty are aware this happens, said Jim Gray, dean of the school of business.

"In my classes, I discuss my policy," he said, "and the selling point is that the risk you are taking is not worth the results."

"Being accused and punished is a death warrant in the business world because it goes on your permanent school record," Gray said.

"To cheat, in my opinion, doesn't show much intelligence."



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Although one or two cases have come across Gray's desk, he tends to value the Midwestern upbringing of the majority of his students.

"If a student is from the area, their ethics and standards are higher because of them being from the Bible Belt," he said.

"I also believe there are less opportunities here [to cheat] because the classes are smaller," Gray said. "Also, there is a professor in the class, not some teacher assistant like in larger universities."

Senior Spanish major Mike Reynolds echoed Gray's feelings.

"I have never seen anyone cheat here," he said. "The morals are higher here and people are looking toward a career, not a grade."

"That doesn't mean there isn't an opportunity, because I have seen teachers momentarily leave the classroom, but still no one ever does."

Plagiarism is more of a problem on campus in Reynolds' eyes, especially with the writing intensive classes.

"I've not had a lot of plagiarism brought to my attention," said Dr. Stephen Spector, head of the English department.

"People in the English department try to walk the students through the process, and when you do that, plagiarism is not a problem."

"It would be like stealing a car, taking it apart, then putting it back together again," he said, "because in the Composition II classes, you have to show your sources early on, do a rough draft, then a final copy."

Although Spector doesn't see plagiarism often, he can spot it right away.

"It is easy to tell when a paper has been plagiarized, because the published work is better written than the average freshman," he said. □

## CAB LECTURE

# Speaker blames religious freedom for cults

By VIRGINIA SHAVER  
STAFF WRITER

Freedom of religion causes more cults to form in America than in any other country, Larry Kahaner told a crowd of about 200 Nov. 30 in Matthews Hall auditorium.

The 90-minute presentation included slides and chalkboard illustrations.

Kahaner, author of *Cults that Kill* and a licensed private investigator, has appeared on many television shows, including "Larry King Live." The Campus Activities Board brought him to campus at a cost of \$2,400.

"College students are good prospects for cults," he said. "They are away from home and seeking new horizons. Wives of the military are also easy prey. It has become such a problem, the government has hired chaplains to counsel the wives."

"Cults are all about money," Kahaner told the audience. "People are gullible, and cult leaders

know human nature well. They can read people. Actually, they are con artists."

Kahaner said cults come in many categories, including destructive, benign, religious, political, therapeutic, and financial. Most of them are about money unless they are about harmless subjects like "diet or Star Trek."

He said cults usually begin with a guru at the top, plus a few chosen "beutenants" who lead people to think they can have anything they want by giving money. They have various ways to attract their prey. Most of them have the same routine, and the group is always charismatic.

"There are practices that are common to most cults," Kahaner said. "They most always begin by appealing to a person's desire for money; they all have get-rich-quick schemes. They teach that people outside are always going to hurt them."

Kahaner described how new members are sometimes kept in solitary confinement. They

are watched constantly by other members until the final separation from their former life. They are instructed to sell everything they own, give the money to the guru, and write their "final letter." Then you know you have them, he said.

Kahaner said it was virtually impossible for cult members to get out and return to their homes. He said if a cult member takes someone bodily, he can be arrested for kidnapping.

He was critical of the FBI and said it "screwed up" at Waco. "David Koresh could have been taken any time," Kahaner said. "He went in town daily for Slurpees and food. Koresh was like the rest of us; he got hungry and thirsty."

Kahaner said gurus manipulate their members to do anything they desire. Most of the members are suffering from the lack of love of family. They are shown a symbol of caring which carries great appeal. New members become so



AND SO, THE CARTOONIST TAKES HIS LEAVE TO THE BEAUTIFUL PACIFIC NORTHWEST...



After two years of service (most of it good), our 6-foot-7 cartoonist, Christopher Lassiter, is moving on to bigger and better things, at least as far as cities are concerned. *The Chart* bids him farewell and good luck in all endeavors, including his winter nuptials to former editor P.J. Graham.

#### OUR EDITORIALS

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of *The Chart* editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

## Center has long road to reality

The proposed major events center for the College and community is making positive strides.

The news of Joplin and Jasper County residents favoring the center is fantastic, not only for the College, but for the city and county as well.

It's wonderful to see residents agree it would be beneficial for them, too.

The response was not overwhelming in favor of the events center, but that is expected when the phrase "tax increase" comes into play.

The College, city, and county have a long road in front of them if they really expect to make the events center a reality. The bright news is that all three entities have exceptional public relation facets.

The group now needs to step up and set the public relations' wheels in motion to get everyone in the community excited about the proposed center.

The fact that the center will bring in jobs and extra revenue after it is built is a key selling point.

If officials are truly interested in bringing an events center to Joplin, they need to do it in a way that will cost the taxpayers very little.

A lodging tax is the only way to induce the voters into approving the center while still having them dip into their own pockets.

A lodging tax will not pay for the center entirely, but it will alleviate some of the pressure from taxpayers' wallets. The officials need to inundate voters with information about lodging taxes and explain how this is not a tax on them.

The three groups need to attack the issue while it is fresh, and keep it in the voters' minds.

The citizens have made a bold and magnificent move in responding favorably to a pollster's survey. The ball is now in the College, city, and county's court. □

#### YOUR LETTERS

*The Chart* welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to *The Chart* office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail addresses: [TheChart@aol.com](mailto:TheChart@aol.com) or [HRKP31E@prodigy.com](mailto:HRKP31E@prodigy.com). Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

## Abortion issue can't exist without God

I address this article to all who have in *The Chart* denounced God, the Bible, and Christians of late...especially to Dan Wiszkon. I love your logic, Dan, concerning the unborn.

I find your intelligence and character remarkable in that sense. And it is refreshing to hear a young man with such decisiveness!

But I wonder if you have applied the same reasoning and courage to consider your antagonism toward God?

I was totally a heathen for 26 years of my life. I graduated from MSSC in '74 and am now studying for another degree. I gave my heart to the Lord at a certain point because I found He was real. But a lot of what is intellectually sound about Christianity has only recently become obvious to me.

I am presently writing a research paper on the evolution/creationism issue. Most people don't even realize it's an issue! But there are many sound evidences and logical evaluations that support creationism. I invite anyone to read it. And intelligently refute it if you can!

It's not intelligent to defy God! If you had any idea of the evidential proofs of the Bible, both historically, scientifically, and even as a literary work, you wouldn't scorn it. I am concerned about you. I'm concerned about our society and the direction of people like you think you might be going without God. It's hopelessness!

And I'm glad I found out in time to turn around. There's something to the gospel. And just mocking the messenger is not going to obliterate the fact.

We love you is why we tell the truth. But no one can ever manipulate or force another to be a Christian. In fact, God says when you seek me with your whole heart—then—you will find me. And He says when you humble yourself and pray, He will hear and heal your land.

Christianity is not a political issue. It is an individual issue, and the most important decision a person can make. But don't expect us to keep God out of the abortion issue. He's the only reason there is an issue!

When I was a young woman in need of help, Jesus alone was able to help me. That has never changed since. I will tell others

about Him. He's the only reason there is an issue. Man is not good in himself, or capable of being good. Your rebellion against the One who has given you life and breath and even the air you breathe proves it.

You have taken an individualistic approach to abortion and that is admirable. But what have you done? Mostly it is Christians who are concerned about abortion in this world. If you don't like it that I can speak so boldly, I can only challenge you with the same issue.

Do you think there could possibly be viable life without first a viable and intelligent Creator? I know of many scientists who would give logical proofs to discredit your assumption. But more important I know God, and believe in Him, and will do what I can to make Him known to others.

Linda Emory

Senior Spanish/communications major

## Athiest should 'convince with kindness'

As someone who worked in the feminist movement for many years, I am frequently intrigued by different ways of looking at knotty issues like the abortion question.

As managing editor of *The Monett Times*, I am concerned when another managing editor commits public hari kari. Dan Wiszkon's piece in the Nov. 9 *Chart* struck me that way.

In an area this conservative, two subjects I have found better to avoid than discuss are abortion and gun control. No one's mind is going to be changed on the subject anyway, so why bother.

You are in that unique college setting where all topics are open, so you can take your lumps and dish them out, too, as part of your education. You may get an education if you listen closely to the reactions to your column. If you just

brush them off, it won't matter, but you will hear many different views that will be repeated throughout your career. Pay attention to them now and you could avoid dealing with some terribly irate and difficult people later.

Remember, a publisher may not want an employee who is going to rile up the most uncalmable constituents.

I try not to ridicule them, which you came awfully close to doing. Be careful. I have only had my life seriously threatened once, and it was in a picket line, and I was threatened with violence by Operation Rescue personnel. The editor of the newspaper at St. Louis University, writing about the incident, said "all" acts are justified to stop abortion. That means killing abortion doctors, too. I have never forgotten that, nor do I intend to let anyone else forget it.

I am forced to take the opinion that as a

man, this is a decision I cannot make regardless. I leave the matter in the hands of women of child-bearing age, who have to carry the burden of their decisions for the rest of their lives. I have enough moral baggage to carry and ponder and wrestle with my god about, rather than carry that burden too.

Please consider these thoughts as you ponder the issue. Please remember your opinions can touch someone deeply by speaking at the right time for them to hear, and the same words can cut both ways.

Please consider the strategy of convincing with kindness, particularly when you tread on the most delicate of issues. Thanks for listening.

Murray Bishoff

Managing editor, *The Monett Times*

#### EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Disease changes life

Overcoming cancer gives student maturity, inner strength

When I was about 4 years old, I was playing tag with my cousins at a family gathering in Arkansas when one of them fell on me.

Shortly afterward, my stomach started hurting, and it got progressively worse throughout the day. At that time, my family lived in Kansas City and we had to drive back that night. When we reached the city, I was hurting so bad that my parents took me straight to the hospital, where doctors performed emergency surgery.

I remember my mother telling me the next morning that the doctors had removed a tumor from my stomach about the size of her fists clenched together. They also removed my left kidney. I was diagnosed with Wilms' Tumor, a form of childhood cancer.

From then on, life was different. It was filled with extended stays in the hospital and daily visits from doctors, nurses, and specialists, and so on. And after I was released, my parents and I made weekly trips to the hospital for chemo or radiation treatments, blood tests, and X-rays. On alternate weeks, I received treatments on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and then on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

I lost all my hair from the chemo, which destroys all the dead cells in the body, including the lining of the stomach. This meant I tossed my cookies immediately after every shot, and I bet I had hundreds of shots. That got old fast.

For the radiation treatments, doctors marked on my skin with colored ink to indicate where the radiation should be focused. I had to lie flat on a table or on my side for long periods of time while the nurses sat in another room and watched me and talked to me and told me not to move.

I guess you could say I didn't have what most people would call a "normal" childhood. When you hear about just the medical side, the doctors and such, it sounds like it was pure hell. But, really, it wasn't all that bad.

Some of my earliest memories are of roaming the hospital corridors, hiding from doctors and nurses who wanted to poke and prod or give shots or take blood. It was kind of fun. I knew my way around that hospital

Genie Undernehr  
Editor-In-Chief



backwards. When everything shut down for the night and the nurses went to their station down the hall, off I would go, pulling my I.V. stand behind me. It didn't even slow me down.

Because I spent most of my kindergarten year in the hospital, I attended the hospital school with about six or seven other children in my ward. We were a sorry group, some of us in wheelchairs and some of us strapped to I.V.s. But we had fun. We watched movies and played games, and even learned a little bit too. I learned to spell my name there.

In some sense, I knew this was different from what other children did, but for me it was normal. I never questioned why this happened to me, and even now, thinking back, I know I would not be the person I am today if I had not had this experience.

I believe I am better for it, stronger. I grew up being more aware of what was going on around me than other children my age. It gave me a kind of maturity, and I gained my own kind of independence.

But my experiences in the hospital also gave me a strong dislike for doctors and for medicine in general. Go figure. To this day, I absolutely refuse to voluntarily see a doctor for any illness. I know this is not necessarily a good thing, but I can't help it. I developed this trait early in my medical experiences. I was the most obstinate of patients, and I would cooperate with my doctors only under duress. Most of the time I would just sit and look at them, and I didn't say a word. I'm sure they looked forward to each and every one of my checkups just as much as I did.

Some say I was robbed of my childhood. Maybe so, but I don't miss it. I made my own childhood in that hospital. I still made friends and played practical jokes and got into trouble like other little kids, so maybe it wasn't so different after all. □

#### IN PERSPECTIVE

## 'Tis the season to be jolly

Instructor wishes students well in pursuits for happiness

As the semester draws to a close, our thoughts turn to finals, holidays, family, friends, vacations, gifts perhaps, and the dawning of a new year. While all these events are about to unfold, my thoughts turn to the passing of another cadre of students on the next level.

The literature on pedagogy suggests that education must be tied to motivation of the student and instructor. We are cooperating in a grand scientific experiment.

We have a theoretical paradigm, there are numerous tests being conducted, and the results are unknown. Just like all experiments, we have our share of failures and our share of successes. We are learning every day what works and what does not and how the student and instructor can best achieve success.

For those in the core curriculum classes, they move through the ranks to the higher levels trained now, in my case, in the basic are of public speaking. I wish them well and hope they remember those skills which should stand them in good stead when called upon to give presentations in other classes or in their chosen careers.

These students are the most exciting to teach because they give us something no one else has. They risk success and failure in college every day. Many times these students are learning what it means

Dr. J.R. Moorman  
Faculty Senate  
President



to be a college student as they learn about subject matter.

For those students in their majors, the risk is less about college and more about the future.

Many of these students are going to graduate in the next year and they are looking ahead to life after college. The future may be unclear, but what is certain is that they have been transformed by their experiences at Missouri Southern.

Whether they began as nontraditional students (AKA—older), or fresh-faced 18-year-olds, the result is the same—intellectual maturity has occurred. Teachers believe the transformation cannot take place without education.

We instructors share in your aspirations and glories as well as your tragedies and defeats. Maybe we are just living vicariously through you and your efforts, but I don't think so.

What strikes me is that the process of education is a chance for happiness. Yours and mine. I hope you get what you ask for at this holiday time of the year. □

### THE CHART

ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994)

Member: Missouri College Media Association

The *Chart*, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.

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FACULTY SENATE

# Enhancement goal to face opposition

By AILEEN GRONWOLD  
EDUCATION EDITOR

As usual, the subject of money came up at the Faculty Senate meeting Monday. College President Julio Leon addressed the issue in connection with two of the College's goals: the international mission and the civic center.

It became apparent to Leon during his recent trip in Jefferson City that the mission enhancement goal will have some opposition.

"It was quite evident that there will continue to be questions about the increased funding for the three schools (Southern, Missouri Western, and Southwest Missouri State University) seeking mission enhancements," he said.

Leon believes, however, that ups and downs are typical in negotiating changes through governmental process.

The next step will be taken when the governor makes his recommendations in the beginning of the next legislative session.

The public opinion poll for the civic center

should be complete this week, Leon said.

Even if the results are positive, the College will have to make decisions about how and when to proceed.

One consideration will be whether the Joplin R-8 School District also seeks bond approval on the next ballot.

The proposed center will require voter approval of a 3/8 cent increase in sales tax.

"We won't want to have our proposal on the ballot at the same time as Joplin R-8," Leon said.

The Senate approved a new English intern-

ship course in the only new business conducted. The internship will be offered first in the summer of 1996. The purpose of the internship is to provide advanced writing students with opportunities to develop skills through working with practitioners in the business world.

The course is open to English majors or minors of advanced standing with a GPA of 3.0 and approval of a departmental committee. A minimum of 40 clock hours must be spent at the work-site to earn one hour of college credit.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES

## Husband, wife to team teach

By STEPHANIE WARD  
CHART REPORTER

One of the many new courses scheduled for the spring semester is the Multi-Disciplinary Studies class on the Cultural and Natural History of England.

It will be taught by Dr. James Jackson, professor of biology, and his wife, Brenda Jackson, part-time instructor of theatre.

The class is being offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. This will be the couple's third year teaching the class.

"We've always been interested in England," Brenda Jackson said. "We've been traveling there every other summer for about 15 years."

"We spend the whole summer there, so we're able to look around and learn about the area a lot," Jim Jackson said.

Besides visiting in the summer, the Jacksons lived in England for six months in 1990 while Jim was on sabbatical. It was during this time they began to take notice and learn more about the English culture and how it's tied to its natural history.

It was also during this time that the MIDS program was getting started at Southern and they were asked to teach the class. They decided to teach it on what they enjoyed: England.

"It (the class) gets people inter-

ested in travel," Brenda Jackson said. "And I think travel is the best education you can have, or one of the best things you can do to educate yourself—just to get out of the United States and see how other people live."

"We like to talk about how so many things we do and take for granted have come from some historical perspective in England. A lot of the things we do we inherited

*We like to talk about how so many things we do and take for granted have come from some historical perspective in England.*

Brenda Jackson  
Instructor of theatre

The "geomorphology," as I always say. The geomorphology, you know, how it looks geologically, shapes the environment and shapes the culture."

"I talk about all the different civilizations who have crossed from Europe over to England," Brenda Jackson said.

"Everybody brings something and mixes it with what's there and eventually comes up with the culture that's there now."

They said they will show slides and videos to their class. They sometimes like to try to get a student from England to speak to the class.

The students will be required to do outside readings and then give a 20-minute presentation on an area of Eng-

land they are interested in, either the culture or the natural history.

The Jacksons recommend that students who are interested in the Oxford study program should take this course.

It is, however, open to anyone who is interested.

One of the things that inspired the Jacksons to teach this class was the thought that maybe people taking the class would be inspired to go to England themselves and have a better appreciation for it.

"Hopefully," he said, "if people will take the course and go over there, they'll be a little more prepared."

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

## Smith to teach accounting software

By MELANIE BULLETTE  
CHART REPORTER

College graduates sometimes experience a difficult transition from the classroom to the workplace. A new class being offered at Missouri Southern this spring will help bridge that gap for accounting students.

Accounting Information Systems, taught by David Smith, assistant professor of business, focuses on the various types of software accountants are currently using and are expected to know upon entering the job market.

"Right now, everything in accounting is taught manually, and the outside world is computerized," he said.

Smith earned his master's in accounting from the University of Illinois in 1984 and went to work, first for public accounting compa-

nies, then in private consulting. He found himself unprepared for the "real world" after graduation.

"I had a strong computer background but wasn't prepared for how the whole system worked," he said.

This class should prevent that problem for Southern students.

Smith said he expects his students to have a solid accounting background.

"I'm not there to teach accounting, but the software instead," he said. "We won't be doing any heavy-duty accounting."

Listed as Accounting 498, it is an upper-division course. Smith suggests second-semester juniors and seniors take the class.

"I've heard a lot of frustration from some of the accounting majors because they are being taught more the theory of accounting as opposed to the application," said Dan Connolly, senior comput-

*Right now, everything in accounting is taught manually, and the outside world is computerized.*

David Smith  
Asst. professor of  
business

er science major.

"The way I look at it, computers and accounting are naturally linked," Smith said.

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

## New class to explore Latin America

Smallman anticipates teaching subject of his dissertation

By JILL CORBELLO  
CHART REPORTER

Modern Latin America, a new history course, will be offered to students at Missouri Southern for the 1995 spring semester.

The course will be taught by Dr. Shawn Smallman, assistant professor of history, at 9 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

"What I really know, what I did

my dissertation on in college, is Latin America history, especially Brazil," Smallman said. "I'm really excited about teaching this course because this is my period."

Smallman says many students are interested in the course and it has already been capped, but he said he will be letting more students into the class.

He thinks the course will be good for Spanish and communication majors.

"It's good for some of the communication majors who are studying Spanish, who are going to teach Spanish, to know a little bit about the culture and the history of Latin America," Smallman said.

The course will be a survey of

Latin America starting with its independence in 1870 to modern-day.

"Rather than focus on one or two countries, I'm going to look at certain common themes throughout a couple of regions," Smallman said.

He says the course will cover revolution, Cuba, the role of the church, and the military uprising in Latin America.

"I think there will be a diverse mix of students because there will be some people in the class who are communication majors who speak a little Spanish, and there are history students who will be taking the course also," Smallman said.

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Mike Lawson, assistant professor of biology, tests an antibiotic's resistance to bacteria Monday in a Reynolds Hall laboratory. Lawson first researched antibiotic resistance with his daughter six years ago.

## Course to examine future disease crisis

By DAWN CRAIG  
CHART REPORTER

Finding a cure for antibiotic resistant diseases is a major difficulty for a microbiologist when some forms of bacteria become immune to any medical treatments.

A course that first was taught last spring at Missouri Southern addresses this problem even further through class discussions and laboratory experience.

"My daughter and I researched this area for six years when she started the seventh grade, and I had a student study antibiotic resistance when I taught high school," said Mike Lawson, an assistant professor of biology who will be teaching the Antibiotic Resistance class this spring on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 8:20 p.m. in Reynolds Hall.

Lawson believes people should know about the antibiotic resistance problem and how it is becoming increasingly difficult to treat diseases due to antibiotic resistance.

This course is designed to give students some training they might not otherwise receive in their general microbiology courses.

Lawson sees another need for this course, because not only is this a health problem but also a major economic problem.

"Most people cannot afford to go through a trial and error method of finding what antibiotic is going to work," he said, "because by the time you get to the antibiotic that will work, their body systems might have shut down and some of these people die due to resistant strains of bacteria."

Topics to be covered in the class include causes of antibiotic

resistance, how bacteria becomes resistant to antibiotics, how the bacteria transfers the antibiotic resistance to other bacteria, and what can be done to prevent the development of antibiotic resistance.

The first four to five weeks of the semester will be lecture-based, and the remainder of the semester will be laboratory-based, Lawson said.

"Basically what we will be doing in the class is going out to rural areas where we can find herds of cattle that have been given different amounts of antibiotics and we will isolate the bacteria from them and test the bacteria for antibiotic resistances," he said.

Lawson said his students usually discover that the cattle who have been given the biggest doses of antibiotics contain the most resistant strains of bacteria, which would be expected.

"The people who should probably take Antibiotic Resistance are those studying in veterinary, doctors, nurses, or anyone who plans to major in environmental health," he said.

Non-biology majors are allowed to take the class if they have already taken the general microbiology course.

Since the class is based approximately 70 percent on laboratory assignments, students need to have mastered the basic microbiology techniques before registering to take this class.

"There seems to be more biologists studying the antibiotic resistance problem due to public health concerns," Lawson said.

"One reason we are seeing more antibiotic resistance is because we have not had a screening program in the United States for resistant strains."

### HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS

#### Darling to take helm at Pittsburg State

The Kansas Board of Regents has selected Kansas native John Darling as the new president of Pittsburg State University.

Darling most recently was a distinguished professor of international business at Louisiana State University at Shreveport, where he served as chancellor from 1990 until his resignation last spring.

Darling was born in Holton, Kan. His parents met at what is now PSU in 1933 when his father was a student and his mother was a university employee. Darling has also served as a professor of business at Wichita State University.

"I'm coming back home," he said at the PSU alumni center Saturday after his hiring was announced.

Darling has also served as dean of the college of business at Southern Illinois University and an associate professor of marketing at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He has had visiting professorships at universities in Finland, Taiwan, Mexico, Egypt, South Korea, and Japan.

#### Gift to benefit CMSU College of Business

Warrensburg leaders Adrian and Margaret Harmon have provided a \$2 million gift to the Central Missouri State University Foundation.

The gift, which will establish the Adrian and Margaret Harmon College of Business and Economics, is the largest single gift ever received by the CMSU Foundation.

The Harmons spent 42 years in banking and the mortgage banking business in west central Missouri. In making the gift, they talked of their long association with the university and their desire to make an investment in its future. Adrian Harmon cited the need for outstanding young business leaders and said he wanted to see those leaders come from CMSU.

"A gift like this is every development officer's dream," said Marilyn Landers, the university's director of development. "I don't believe anyone can truly say at this time what this means for the future of Central's college of business. The impact of this gift will be felt for untold generations of students."

Paul Shaffer, dean of the college of business and economics, said he and his faculty were overwhelmed with the generosity of the Harmons.

"This wonderful gift positions the business school for an even greater, productive future," he said. "This gift will be used to support the academic mission of the college of business."

#### Northwest narrows search for new dean

Northwest Missouri State University's search for a permanent dean of the college of arts and sciences has reached the interview stage with five individuals on that list.

Dr. Anthony Coyne, professor of philosophy at the University of North Carolina-Asheville, visited the campus Monday. Dr. John Snyder, associate vice president for academic affairs at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, is scheduled to arrive Friday.

Next week, Dr. C. Taylor Barnes, chairman of the department of geology/geography at Northwest, and Dr. Susan Ernst, chairman of the department of biology at Tufts University, will be interviewed.

A second candidate from Northwest, Dr. Richard Fulton, chairman of the department of government, was interviewed Nov. 30.

The search for a dean of the college of arts and sciences is the result of an academic reorganization at Northwest that trimmed the academic college number from four to three along with a realignment of academic disciplines within the colleges.



## CAMPUS EVENTS CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					7	8
10	11	12	13			

### Today 7

Ceramic and jewelry show and sale, until Sunday.  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—  
Koinonia Campus Ministries, basement of Stegge Hall.  
12:15 p.m.—  
Psychology Club meeting, Taylor Education & Psychology, Room 123.  
12:15 p.m.—  
Sigma Tau Delta meeting, Seminar Room.  
1 p.m.—  
Collegiate Music Educators National Conference meeting, Phinney Hall, 222.  
7:30 p.m.—  
Christmas Band and Chorale Concert, the jazz and symphonic bands and the Concert Chorale join together for an evening of holiday fun, free to the public, audience participation, Taylor Performing Arts Center.

### Friday 8

Last Day of Classes

### Saturday 9

1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.—  
Suzuki student recitals, with a play-in between recitals.  
8 p.m.—  
An Evening With Elvis: a benefit for Cerebral Palsy presented by Darwin "Elvis" Warner. Tickets are \$10 and are available at Devore's Western Store, Oldies 107 FM, KODE T.V., Bob Massey Music, American Family Insurance, and the Cerebral Palsy Centers in Webb City and Carthage.

### Sunday 10

9:30 a.m.—  
BSU Bible Studies, Baptist Student Union.  
8 p.m. to midnight—  
Holiday Formal (semi-formal), Billingsly Student Center Connor Ballroom, music by C Fox and Company, sponsored by the CAB.

### Monday 11

Finals Week Begins  
7 p.m.—  
BSU Bible Studies, Baptist Student Union.

### Tuesday 12

Noon—  
Newman Club, Catholic organization meeting, Billingsly Student Center Room 306.  
12:15 p.m.—  
Young Democrats meeting, Billingsly Student Center Room 306.  
12:20 p.m.—  
Arab League Meeting, Webster Hall Room 212.  
3 p.m.—  
National Broadcasting Society—AERho meeting, first floor of Webster Hall, Studio B.  
7:30 p.m.—  
"Messiah" Four soloists, Jane Munsen-Berg, soprano; Betty Salmon, mezzo-soprano; Jeff Carney, tenor; and Robert Ames, bass; perform with a community choir and orchestra, free to the public, Taylor Performing Arts Center.

### Wednesday 13

7 p.m.—  
Modern Communications Club meeting, third floor of Webster Hall.

### Thursday 14

7:30 p.m.—  
Choral Society Concert, Phinney Recital Hall.

### Friday 15

Last Day of Finals

Have a  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year.

## YOUNG GYMNASIUM

# Multiple sclerosis patients receive help

By RONNA SPARKS  
STAFF WRITER

Students at Missouri Southern are volunteering for an organization that makes therapeutic exercises not only beneficial, but enjoyable.

The multiple sclerosis wellness program is currently holding a pilot aquatics program which allows patients to exercise and socialize in Southern's pool.

"It's fun based on the camaraderie," said Sara Burns, aquatics participant and MS patient. "It's something to look forward to doing instead of saying, 'Well, I've got to go walk today.'"

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic disorder of the central nervous system that makes simple, everyday tasks that were previously

taken for granted extremely difficult, which is why the water is essential to the program.

The buoyancy of the water helps support up to 90 percent of the person's body weight, therefore people who couldn't normally stand or have problems standing can do exercises and participate in group games, which most participants find the most enjoyable.

"I think anybody in this type of a program, if they're given permission to play and have a good time, you can disguise a lot of exercise and a lot of positive wellness and still have fun," said Jamie Brunette, the MS aquatics volunteer coordinator.

The aquatics program allows the public to become involved by using volunteers to assist MS patients in their aquatic activities, which is

66

*I like to know how I can make a difference in people's lives by helping them with small things.*

Becky Dingess  
Senior management major

99

where Southern students are involved.

Becky Dingess, senior management major, said she enjoys the experience.

"I like to know I can make a difference in people's lives by helping them with small things," she said.

Involvement is not limited to volunteers. Two Southern students

are also instructors.

Becky Bockman, sophomore criminal justice major and instructor, also said she has benefited.

"I've gained a lot of friends and happiness," she said, "and it really makes me feel better about myself as a person."

Brunette said she greatly appreciates the instructors and volunteers

and said the program wouldn't have been possible without the help of Cindy Wolfe, director of intramurals, and Southern's administration.

MS patients also find meeting with people who have the same problems they do helps them learn to deal with the disease. Eric Nichols, MS patient and the man credited with helping bring the program to Joplin, said patients gain physical and emotional support.

"When you get into the water, everybody there knows," he said. "They've either been there or will be there, and you all know that so you don't have to explain it."

The aquatics program is looking for both participants and volunteers. For more information, interested students may call 1-800-745-4148.

## RESIDENCE HALLS



Deb Gipson and Lamonte Blanford are a strong team in directing the residence halls. Gipson and Blanford supervise 18 staff assistants.

# Directors find challenges at home

By LESLIE ROBERTS  
STAFF WRITER

One of the most important aspects of the job of residence hall director is to be available for students 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

After all, something like The Opossum Incident could crop up.

"We had a recent incident in which one of the students had an opossum thrown onto his car," said Lamonte Blanford, residence hall director. "He didn't have any proof of who had done it, but he came storming to my door and was upset because he didn't get along with the guys upstairs, and so of course, he thought they had done it."

"I went over it with him again and said, 'So what do you want me to do about the opossum on your car?' We can get it moved, but I can't just go [to the accused] and say, 'Hey, I know you threw that opossum.'"

Deb Gipson, residence hall director who shares jurisdiction

with Blanford, also has a storehouse of memories fit for "Campus Comedy," but not all of her memories are humorous.

"I think probably the most devastating thing I've had to deal with happened one spring when a young lady who had withdrawn from school came back in May under the guise to see everybody and go to the choir concert, that kind of stuff," Gipson said. "She left here, went home, and killed herself the next morning. Obviously, she had come just to say goodbye."

"The chaos that event created just went on for days; not so much chaotic actions, but chaos in [students'] minds—they were just so confused over why in the world she would do something like that," Gipson said.

In addition to dealing with students' problems, the directors also work with the physical plant and the school nurse.

Gipson also is an academic adviser to students with undeclared majors.

Though they keep busy with these and other responsibilities, the directors do get time off now

and then. Blanford and Gipson agree their job's flexible schedule is one of its high points.

"If I need to go somewhere to get something done, I can call Deb, and vice versa," Blanford said.

Gipson not only appreciates the scheduling freedom, but she also enjoys watching students complete the transition to adulthood.

"We had a staffer who worked for us, and when he first came here, he was something else," she said, smiling.

"He was in with a lot of people who were holding him back. It was nice to watch as the years went by and he matured; to see him get settled on what he wanted to do for the rest of his life."

"He had to cut ties with old friends who had no desire to be in school and who were holding him back."

"I like the flexible schedule, but that personal satisfaction of seeing someone grow up over time, that's a nice thing, too," Gipson said.

This personal sense of satisfaction must be not unlike that of students' parents when they see their children graduate. Sometimes, students treat the two directors

almost as if they were parents.

"They try to play mommy against daddy," Gipson said. "If they don't get the answer they want from me, they'll go talk to Lamonte. But that doesn't work, because usually by the time they've walked from my office to his, I've called Lamonte and told him about the situation," she said.

"And if someone comes to me with a question, I'll say, 'Wait a minute, let me call and ask Deb,' before I give them an answer," Blanford said.

Together, Blanford and Gipson supervise the 18 staff assistants and also the Residence Hall Association.

Neither of them plan to "retire from this job." Gipson would like to stay in the student services field while Blanford is unsure about his future career. He is, however, sure about one thing.

"I would like to have a family, and a house with a yard," he said. "[This job] has been a great opportunity for me, but it's not something I'd want to do forever." □

## STUDENT LIFE

# Studying picks up for finals

By TAMMY DUNKLE  
CHART REPORTER

It's time again for semester finals, and some Missouri Southern students are struggling to figure out how to study for them and find time to work and Christmas shop.

"Finding time to study is really hard for me," says Devin Chance, junior business administration major.

"Late-night cramming is what I usually resort to."

Cramming and short-term memorizing seem to be key elements in studying for finals for many Southern students.

Junior business major Shaine Sundy says he studies best with a box of Vivarin and a quiet library.

"Studying for me all depends," says undeclared major Brian Schmidt.

"If I have kept up with a class, I study like any other normal human being and try to make sense of it all. If I haven't kept up with a class, I won't study at all and just try to wing it. It isn't worth trying to learn a semester's worth of bullshit in one night."

Reading the units over and over again and recopying the summaries into her own words is what Tammi Smith, freshman prelaw major, says prepares her for finals.

"I highlight the important parts of my notes and read the book," said Tiffani Little, senior management major.

"I have to be in quiet surroundings, and I read my notes out loud."

Studying with the television or radio on is popular with some students. Many say they like to snack as they study.

Angelina Ruiz, sophomore paralegal major, says studying her notes and reading the textbook is the only way she knows how to study for finals.

"I think that memorizing and applying yourself are the two secrets to scoring well on finals," said Kristi Hamilton, junior education major. □

## CHRISTMAS BREAK

# Students plan vacation activities

By SPENCER BECK  
CHART REPORTER

Christmas is a time of cheer and opportunity, and students will use the coming break to do a variety of different things.

Although the break gives students four weeks with no classes, many of them will have to join the labor force of the real world.

"I will probably be working during the break," said Caleb Durr, sophomore undecided major, "except I will have to get time off on Christmas to visit relatives."

Because students aren't allowed in the residence halls over Christmas break, many of them will have to go back to their hometowns.

"I'll be working back home," said Mandy Evans, freshman undecided major, "at the nursing home where I worked last summer."

Many students will pass the time in other ways. Some are going to take advantage of the various hunting seasons.

Chris Tymeson, senior criminal justice major, is going with his friend, Brandon Helms, junior criminal justice major, to East Prairie for a duck-hunting expedition.

"It's my first time," Helms said, "but I'll try anything once."

"Next to my girlfriend, hunting is probably my favorite thing in the world," said Colt Rowden, sophomore undecided major.

Some students will challenge the

elements by taking on the downhill slopes.

"I ski every chance I get," said Amy Bohachick, freshman preparamedic major, "even at the nearby artificial resorts in Springfield and Kansas City."

Many students are going to spend the time relaxing with friends and relatives.

"I'm looking forward to spending time with my family and friends," said Jolene Clettenberg, freshman undecided major. Another student, Pam Lawson, sophomore pre-optometry major, is going to spend some time with her fiancé.

"I'm looking forward to a month of relaxation," Lawson said. "It'll be good to get away from the stress of my studies." □

# AIM HIGH



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SCOTT GLADDEN/Special to The Chart

Two criminal justice Homecoming queens exchange a hug as Nikki Christmann (right) is crowned Missouri Southern's 1995 queen by Jennifer Charleston, who was honored as Homecoming queen in 1994.



“I was so busy during the days leading up to Homecoming, that when I won, my big celebration was to finally sit down and relax.”

Nikki Christmann  
1995 Homecoming Queen

## Queen for a lifetime

### Christmann receives crown

By JASON OWEN  
CHART REPORTER

Being a princess is something every girl dreams of. For one Missouri Southern student, that dream became a reality as Nikki Christmann was named Southern's 1995 Homecoming queen.

"I was so busy during the days leading up to Homecoming, that when I won, my big celebration was to finally sit down and relax," said Christmann, a senior criminal justice major.

Christmann, president of the Criminal Justice Student Association, said her favorite things about Southern are the student-to-instructor ratio and the way instructors treat students.

"I love the fact that there are so few students to teachers," she said. "I mean, if you went somewhere like Mizzou you could be stuck in a class with 300 students or more."

"And the professors here are more like your friends," she added. "I know it sounds corny, but if you have a personal problem you really can talk to them."

Christmann plans to become a police officer in the Kansas City area after graduation.

She said Southern is the perfect place to prepare for such a career.

"The teachers in the criminal justice building are proud of what they do, but more importantly, they are proud of us," she said. "You walk away with a feeling of truly having learned something."

Christmann thinks people really don't understand what the department does.

"People think of a criminal justice degree as a 'give-me' degree, something that doesn't take a real intelligent person to complete. But it's not."

"I cannot count the number of hours I have spent in the library researching things. We work for

everything we get," she said.

Christmann, as president of the CJSA, is attempting to change the department's image.

"We are very active in many campus activities, from Homecoming to the Student Senate," she said. "We always have a large number of people present at Senate meetings and even have several members on the council."

Christmann, however, is trying even harder to change the image of the individual students who are criminal justice majors.

"We want people to know that criminal justice majors are not just police officers. They can be anything from wildlife agents, to probation officers, to loss prevention specialists."

"But if I could say anything about the major to those that make fun of it, it's that we are a family."

"We work hard at what we do. We're very proud of what we achieve." □

#### THEATRE DEPARTMENT

## Would-be villain now teacher



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Although her dreams of being a soap opera villainess are currently on hold, Mercedes M'Lou Glover has found an outlet in instructing.

By MAREIKE HORNICK  
CHART REPORTER

Plans for an acting career were put aside when Mercedes M'Lou Glover, adjunct instructor of communications, began to teach.

"When I first started with my bachelor's degree, I really wanted to be a professional actress - to be on a soap opera," she said. "I wanted to play the villainous character."

Glover's goal now is to become a full-time instructor at a college or university. She wants to stay in this area because her family and business are here.

"I never intended to teach, but I acquired a love for it," said Glover.

Glover developed her love for teaching while obtaining her graduate degree.

Her true passion, however, is for the theatre.

"For my master's degree I directed Dangerous Liaisons and also starred in it," Glover said. "This was one of my greatest accomplishments."

Glover said she loves being able to teach speech, acting, and directing.

When she obtained her master's degree in communications, it was with an emphasis on acting and directing.

Aside from her busy job as a college instructor, Glover must also tend to her store.

She and a friend recently purchased one of the Hall's Food Marts in Joplin.

When she's not teaching or running her business, Glover enjoys acting, directing, singing, painting porcelain, and spending time with her dog.

This is no ordinary dog. It's called a Bichon Frise and is a cousin to the Maltese.

Although her dog is now "retired," it was once a show dog. Glover said at one time he was ranked sixth in the nation.

Glover said her greatest accomplishment in life has been, "my education and what it has brought me - more knowledge - I think that makes me more happy than anything."

Dedication is important when

furthering one's education and developing a successful career. Support from friends, family, and teachers also helps one to succeed.

Glover said her mother and father have given her the strength and support she has needed throughout her life.

There is one other person who greatly influenced her life and gave her motivation to achieve her goals.

His name is Bob Gobetz, one of Glover's instructors at Pittsburg State University, where she obtained her bachelor's master's.

"Bob was my best friend," said Glover. "He was that special teacher that made a difference in my life. He made me feel important and special."

Glover's favorite part of teaching is "making a difference in students' lives," she said. "When you don't reach someone, you don't make a difference."

"Colleges and universities don't prepare students for the job market and the rejections," said Glover. □

#### CAMPUS MINISTRIES

## Biblical figures propel Peterson's life

New clergyman wants students to resist temptation

By ANDRE SMITH  
CHART REPORTER

When speaking of heroes, names like Michael Jordan, Michael Jackson, Jerry Rice, and Joe Montana are many times the first that come to mind.

But these four were not included on Tron Peterson's list. Missouri Southern's new associate campus minister's list instead includes Jesus Christ, King David, Joseph, and his earthly father.

"Most people don't usually think of their earthly father as one of their heroes," Peterson said. "My father is the most Godly man I know, and I'm glad he taught me the things he did."

Peterson, a former student of Southern, grew up in Nashville, Mo., before moving to Joplin at the age of 11. At Southern, he received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and an associate degree in law enforcement.

While at Southern, he was active in the campus ministry Koinonia. He and his twin brother, Troy, were assistant Koinonia presi-

"We were created by a God who loves us. He wants us to enjoy life to its greatest extent."

Tron Peterson  
Associate campus minister

dents for two years and participated for five years.

Koinonia proved to be a positive in his life for many reasons. He not only became interested in campus ministry, but he also met his wife of three years there.

"I'm really thankful that I met Misty. She's a great ministry partner and we have a great marriage in an age where divorce is common," said Peterson with a smile.

When he isn't spending time with his wife, he participates in golfing, hunting, and fishing. He has also done weightlifting for which he has won numerous awards.

As a campus minister, Peterson helps in leading Koinonia activities at the weekly meetings. He also

has leadership responsibilities when the group attends retreats and mission trips.

His main goal is to help lead as many students to know Christ as he can, and help them resist temptation.

"Being a former student, I know it is sometimes hard for students to resist the temptations college life may bring," Peterson said. "I want to show them through my example that becoming a Christian is the best decision they will ever make."

His philosophy is living life to the fullest. He has found that a truly fulfilling life is found only in Jesus.

"We were created by a God who loves us. He wants us to enjoy life to its greatest extent," said Peterson.



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Students can find religious guidance from Southern's newest campus minister, Tron Peterson. Peterson was once a student at Southern himself and active in Koinonia.

He believes students should enjoy being young and live life in such a way that they can look back without regrets.

He also thinks students should try to make a difference in someone's life every day in any positive way.

"I want them to know they are important and that they

can accomplish anything they put their minds to, with considerable faith and some perseverance," said Peterson.

Matthew 6:33 says to seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all shall be added unto you. I think that is a great scripture for students to live by." □

#### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



TERESA SIMMONS/The Chart

Dr. Jane Anderson Scholl claims she was never bitten by the reading bug until she began teaching it in Oklahoma.

## Scholl widens students' minds

By RACHEL DEYO  
CHART REPORTER

Dr. Jane Anderson Scholl believes students should keep their options open for new ideas. Scholl said the greatest opportunity she had was working with Choctaw Native American high school seniors in Oklahoma.

"I never thought about going into reading," said Scholl, an assistant professor of education. "It has opened doors I didn't know were there."

She was hired to teach them how to read college-level textbooks, study, and do well on examinations. The classes were honored with an award for the status of "exemplary program."

Along with the program, Scholl also completed six months of research and wrote journals with her students.

Before coming to Missouri, she was a principal at a private Episcopal school in Laurel, Miss., where she also taught Spanish and conducted chapel. She also taught at Vermont Trinity College.

"I like teaching college best because of the contact with students," Scholl said. "I feel strongly about good teachers and like contributing to their training."

Scholl received a bachelor of arts degree in English and secondary education and a master's degree in education for reading at the University of Mississippi. She also received a Ph.D from the University of Southern Mississippi.

One of her most memorable experiences was "walking across the stage to receive the hood for my doctorate," Scholl said. "It was hard work but fun."

Scholl has already achieved some of her goals in life. She received her doctorate and wrote a book about her father, titled Heartland Journals.

"He is a very unique person because he had a very difficult childhood but is the most gentle and loving person you could meet," said Scholl.

She has also hiked the rim of the Grand Canyon twice and traveled through most of the states. She still wants to go to Europe and visit the states she has missed.

Scholl would like to continue working at Southern, get her new home organized, and be a major part in her children's and grandchildren's lives. □



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## Don't tolerate bigotry

In one of my classes, a professor posed an interesting ethical question: "If a coworker expressed a racial slur such as, 'There goes one of those lazy niggers,' (or something to that effect) would you speak out your objection?"

I had no doubt I would speak up. In fact, this is not just a hypothetical situation for me. I am faced with this situation quite often. If not niggers, it's faggots, chicks, gimps, foreigners, and the list goes on.



Fekadu Kiros

Forgive my assumption, but I believe I am not the only person faced with these situations. When faced with them, I simply choose to speak out. Why? Because I do not tolerate bigotry.

I often think life would be easier if I didn't have this determination to fight injustice and prejudice. I would fail to pick out the racist, heterosexual, sexist, and the other "isms" people express consciously or unconsciously or even the injustice of the entire system. However, on the same token, I ask myself, "At whose expense will it be if I remain silent?" If I ignore the injustice, will it go away? I choose not to try, but the injustice will still remain.

I have observed that some people choose to speak out while others opt to let these remarks slide and, of course, some actually share these bigoted views. I have also found some people are selective of what prejudices they tolerate.

I witness this "selective prejudice" when people address bigotry. I have met people who are appalled at racism but are homophobic, people who despise the word "nigger" but at the same time use "faggot" with no reservations. This is when I ask myself whom I prefer, bigots who know where they stand or hypocrites who can't make up their minds?

Regardless, though, the reason for bigotry mostly is ignorance and fear of the unknown. It is easier to be homophobic, for example, than to try to understand homosexuality. It also requires more time and effort to understand gays and lesbians and to understand the effects of homophobia than it does to "gay bash." It is easier to say women are not discriminated against than to research and find that women make 70.6 cents for every dollar a man makes doing the same job. It requires less thought to use sexist language, such as calling a 23-year-old woman a "girl," rather than to take the time to use more inclusive and non-sexist language.

To overcome bigotry, we as a society need to make an effort to understand each other. Ignorance on an issue should not be an excuse for prejudice or indifference. I was not confronted with the issue of homosexuality until my arrival to the United States from Ethiopia nearly three years ago. I had to talk and read about the issue to gain a higher understanding.

Upon covering this issue for *The Chart*, one of the hardest things to do was pick the "isms" that would be addressed with the limited space we have available. Is sexism any less important than racism? Is ableism any less significant than homophobia? No. Each "ism" is appalling. I personally believe prejudice is the same regardless of whom it is directed.

The choice was made on the availability of the people willing to express their personal experience with the various "isms." We needed people to share their experiences to make this coverage as personal as possible. We, as a society, tend to ignore diversity and prejudice when it seems like the buzzword of the 90s rather than an issue which affects people in their day-to-day lives.

We hope the various "isms" in this issue of *The Chart* open the eyes of our readers on the prejudices apparent in Joplin. If nothing else, we hope this coverage starts a dialogue. Education is the cure of prejudice. □



## Interracial relationships becoming more popular

By FEKADU KIROS  
CAMPUS EDITOR

For a year, Tara Payne didn't tell her parents about her relationship even though she was content and happy. Her mother called after a year and asked her, "You are dating a black man, aren't you?"

It was time for Payne, a white senior psychology major, to confess the truth.

Wendy Alloway, a white woman, waited several months before she finally gathered enough courage to tell her parents she is dating a black person.

Payne and Alloway have known each other since elementary school. They grew up in Parsons, Kan., a predominately white town. Their high school was more diverse and they had friends who dated outside their race. Payne and Alloway's parents didn't approve of the interracial relationships at first.

"My father told me if I dated a black man he would disown me," Payne said.

Alloway is getting married in June to her fiancé, Chris, who plays football for Pittsburg State University.

Alloway and Payne are not unique cases when it comes to dating out of one's race. In fact, more than 1.2 million interracial couples live in this country, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. That is an estimated 3 to 5 percent of marriages, according to Stanley Gaines, a psychologist at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., who has studied interracial couples.

It has been nearly 30 years since the Supreme Court, in *Loving v. Virginia*, struck down "anti-miscegenation" laws forbidding marriage between members of different races. Have attitudes changed about interracial dating?

Interracial relationships are a sign of the times changing because people now are able to form relationships by looking at the person rather than the skin color, said Noelle Hill, a black sophomore psychology major.

Meet an interracial couple who wishes to be known as Chikita and Jemale for this article.

Jemale is a black man and his girlfriend, Chikita, is a white woman. They are both from a metropolitan city and attend Southern. They have been dating for nearly 10 months.

"I do not have a problem with it (interracial dating)," Chikita said. "I do not go and pick someone because they are a certain race. I look at the person in the inside and see if it is someone I am compatible with."

"Dating outside my race is something new to me," Jemale said. "It doesn't matter, though. It is

about what makes me happy and about satisfying my emotional need."

Their families have supported their relationship, although Jemale doubts the acceptance of his community if Chikita were to visit him at home.

"If she was to come visit me back home, it would be a problem because I come from an area where all the white people are police, agents, or people looking for drugs," Jemale said. "Dating outside a race is considered being a 'sell-out.' So it would be a problem."

The couple said their experience in Joplin has been stressful at times. The stares in the mall and the racism in Joplin has made it hard. Although bothered by it at first, they said they have learned to find humor in it.

"It is no big deal to me," Chikita said. "But you can tell by the stares that people here are not used to it."

The stereotype people hold has also affected the couple. Jemale said he has heard comments such as "You are setting a bad example for the school." Chikita said she has been told that she should stop seeing Jemale because "all the black athletes on campus have diseases."

"Our relationship is a lot stronger," Jemale said. "This is probably the strongest relationship I have had since I started dating. The problems are so much to deal with everyday that it just makes you get closer to someone."

Jemale said his choosing to date Chikita is not a rejection of black women, but rather about finding someone whom he is happy with.

"I know it (interracial dating) should be all right," said Hill. "But I feel I am not good enough for them (black men) and that is why they have this relationship with white women."

Kameelah Howard, a black freshman dental hygiene major, doesn't mind interracial dating.

"It is all right if they (interracial couples) are together for the right reasons like love and caring," she said. "Not just for experimenting."

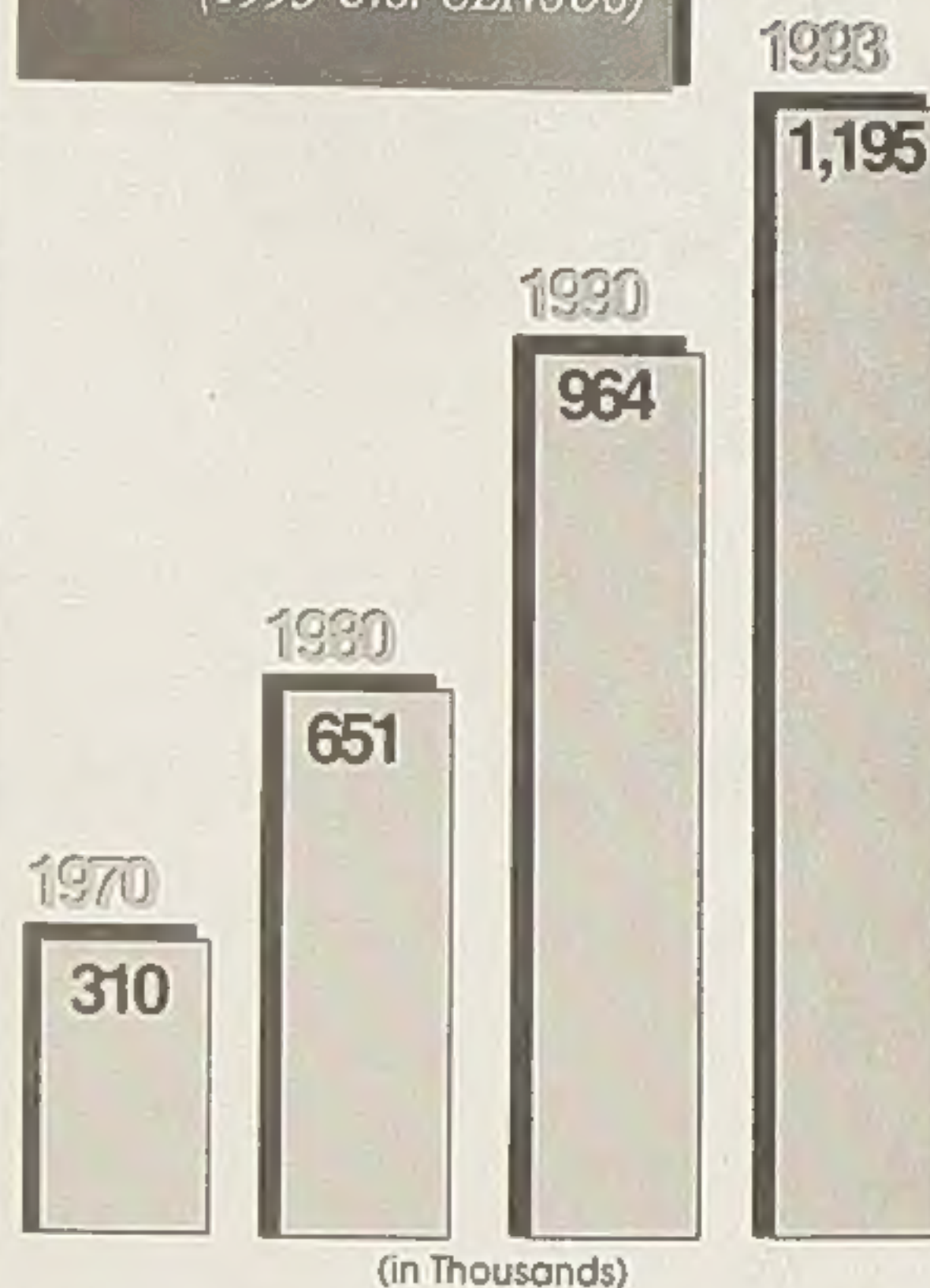
Hill said the reaction of the white families would probably be stronger than black families in terms of the reaction to an interracial relationship.

She also expressed concern for the children of interracial couples who may be confused of their racial identity and who might develop an anonymity toward one of the races they belong to. The environment they belong to may also affect how they grow up, she added.

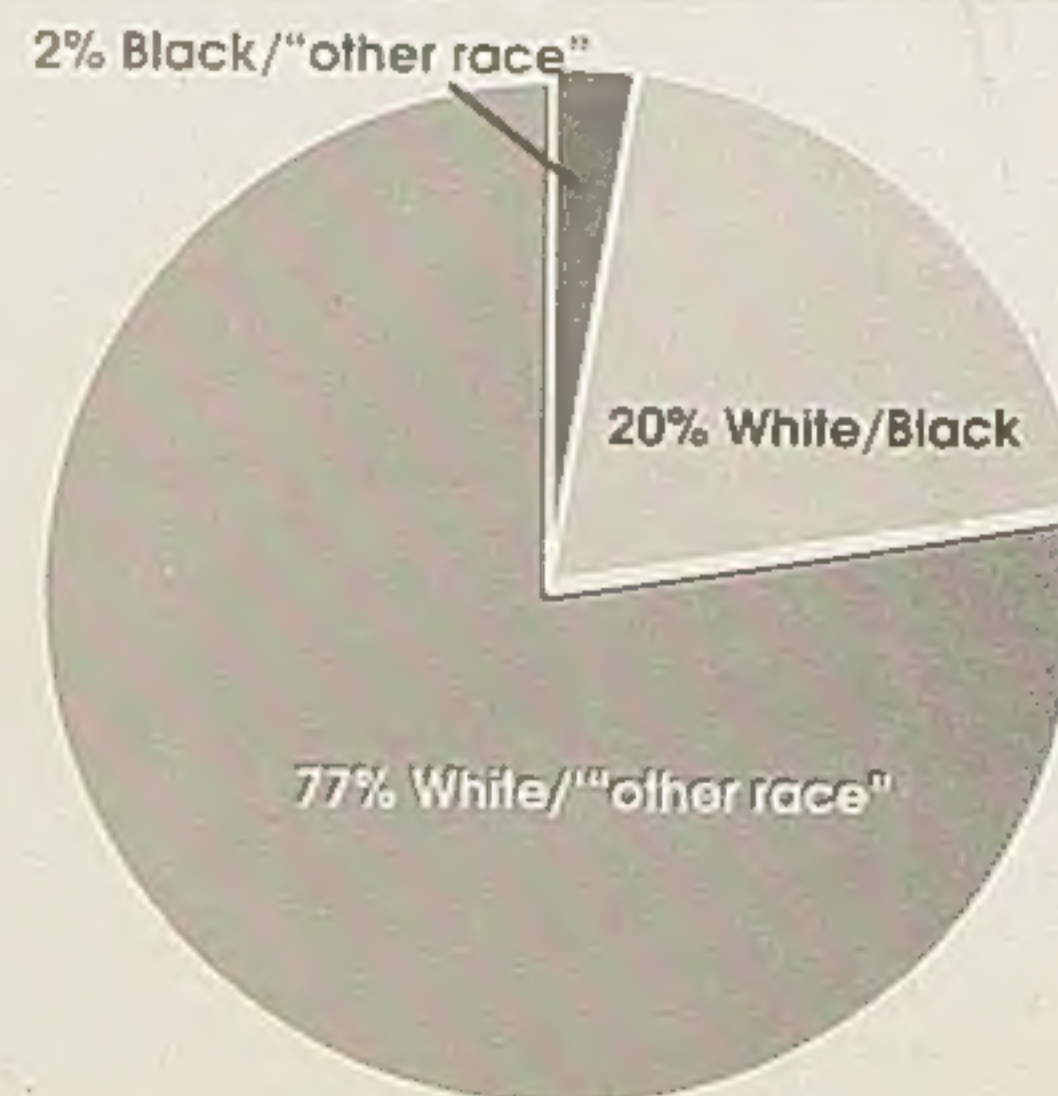
"If they grow up in an environment which provides multiculturalism, they will be all right because they (the children) will have the best of both worlds," Hill said. □

### INTERRACIAL MARRIAGES

(1993 U.S. CENSUS)



(in Thousands)  
Interracial married couples



Interracial marriage breakdown



# Q & A with a man who's gay

By FEKADU KIROS  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Scott Brown, a sophomore English major, is a gay student at Missouri Southern. He was born and raised in Joplin.

**Q—When did you first come out?**  
A—I came out to all of my friends and my family in the fall of 1994. I came out to myself the summer of 1994. I was starting my sophomore year in college.

**Q—How was your coming-out experience to yourself, to your family, and to your friends?**

A—To myself, I finally accepted that it is who I am. My family are still in denial. They say, "It is just a phase." They think it is just something I am doing for shock value. I don't keep in contact with a lot of people from high school. All the people I have kept in contact with, I think they know. I have told a couple of people.

**Q—How was your experience in high school as a gay teen?**

A—It was kind of scary because you were always afraid. Some kids were hateful. The beginning of high school was harder. As I got older I made some friends with the speakers, the choir and music kids; they were more accepting than the football team. The academic students were more accepting than some of the other ones.

**Q—How has your college experi-**

ence been so far?

A—It seems like in high school everyone was cliquish. Here, people kind of stick to themselves, and if you don't get in their faces people don't even care. You are just another person on the sidewalk. Most of the people I've met have been very nice and understanding. The people here are more open-minded. I wouldn't say so much if we were in St. Louis or something, but they are a little more open-minded.

**Q—How would you describe Joplin in terms of its acceptance of homosexuality?**

A—It seems like Joplin isn't very accepting of diversity. I am always watching my back. You have to be careful. It seems like the people are very homophobic here. You go to the gas station after 2 a.m. and people give you strange looks. Everywhere I go people are always looking and staring. Joplin is very closeted. The people here aren't very open about their sexuality. I think it is because a lot of the people are afraid.

**Q—Have you experienced any physical harassment because of your sexuality?**

A—I had a bad experience this summer. I was at a gas station in Seneca at about 2 a.m. These guys were in a pick-up truck next to me getting gas. They kept making rude comments like, "You're queer," and they did it the whole time I was getting gas. I was thinking, "Let me get this gas and get out of here." I yelled something in German as they were leaving, because I could not just stand there and say nothing. So they came back and said, "What did you say?" I am sure they were drunk. I told them, "I am sorry if you have a problem, but I am trying to buy gas." This guy started walking up to me, and he was smoking a cigarette. I pulled the pump out and held it in my hand like

it was a revolver. He kept on walking and he realized that if he did, what I had in my hand would blow up the town of Seneca. He got back in his car and they left. It really scared me. First of all, they were just harassing me in public like that and they didn't think anything of it. Second, I had just almost blown the town of Seneca.

**Q—Do you think there is a difference between other types of prejudice and homophobia? Do you think people perceive there is a difference?**

A—It seems like the more educated people would not accept heterosexism or racism, for example. I don't know if it is more accepted among the general

colleges in the area have gay, lesbian, and bisexual clubs. Why do you think there is not one at Southern?

A—The reason I think is that the gay students in Joplin are scared. They don't want people to know they are gay because people are kind of hateful about that kind of stuff around here.

**Q—There is this myth that a gay person usually has a thousand sexual partners in a lifetime. What do you think about that?**

A—From my experience of my straight friends and gay friends, I wouldn't say that either one is more promiscuous than the other. I have read that gay men are more promiscu-

You have predisposition to one or the other. Then your upbringing has a little bit to do with which way you go.

**Q—Do you think it matters whether it is born or bred?**

A—Not really. Usually the reason people get behind the hatred is because of the Bible. That is ridiculous. If you knock that excuse (Bible) out of the way, what excuse would they have to hate someone? Their excuse is that it is not natural or it goes against God's law. Well, if they didn't have that as an excuse what would make it so wrong? Everybody has their own interpretations of the Bible.

**Q—Do you feel guilty about your sexuality?**

A—Before I came out. Maybe not guilt but self-hate and self-loathing because my family raised me to believe that it is wrong and I would go to hell. People are not very accepting here. It created a lot of tension inside myself as to whether I was. When I finally accepted it, I didn't feel the guilt or the hate I did before. It was right for me, so that is what mattered.

**Q—If you had a choice to be gay or heterosexual, what would you choose?**

A—It would probably make things easier if I was straight. I feel like I was born gay and that was what was meant for me.

**Q—Do you think as a gay man you have gained a different perspective on prejudice than, say, a heterosexual male?**

A—I think it makes you more understanding. I see how I was treated and how people were condescending to me. I was raised in a racist background. Seeing what I have gone through, why should someone else be subjected to that? □

Scott Brown  
Sophomore English major

## RACISM

# Racial tensions still exist in U.S.

Americans getting better, but still have steps to climb

By FEKADU KIROS  
CAMPUS EDITOR

On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being a utopian world in terms of racial relations, how does America rate?

Doug Dennis, a black freshman undecided major and debate team member, gives America a 2.

"I don't have to ride in the back of the bus anymore, but I still get paid 60 cents less. If I go out with my college degree, I will make 4 or 5 cents an hour more than a white guy without a college degree," Dennis said.

Leslie Kirkland, a white political science major, gives America a 3.

"There certainly has been improvements with the passing of the civil rights bills and the various affirmative action programs have enhanced the role of minorities in America in business," she said. "But as far as being able to see one another equally, we are very far away from accomplishing that."

It is the institutional racism that is more obvious today because "you can't really walk around and carry your racism like the Ku Klux Klan" did in the past, Dennis said. The death penalty is instituted on minorities on a much higher basis than it is on whites, he added. Blacks also serve longer sentences for such offenses as crack cocaine possession.

Joplin is no exception when it comes to racism, according to Dennis and Kirkland.

"People walk across the street when they see me and walk back after they pass me," Dennis said. "I don't think people even notice it when they do that."

Many people in Joplin are not exposed to non-whites so they mostly rely on the mass media so they have an image of blacks that they see on the 5:30 news, Kirkland said.

"If all I have to go by was television, I would be afraid," Dennis said. "The media is our sole instructor. Take Martin Lawrence (of Fox's "Martin"). It is a good show, but the reason it is a funny show is because it is a black man making an idiot of himself."

Chand Dalai, a freshman undecided major and an Asian-American who came from India when she was 3, said she has not been confronted with racism.

"When I was little I was called nigger. People thought I was black because I have dark skin, but now I don't really experience racism because people accept Asians more," Dalai said.

Part of the problem with racism is that not enough people pay attention to it and the people who are not directly confronted by it also tend to ignore it, Kirkland said.

"I don't have a single white friend that gives it (racism) a whole lot of thought. Your average Caucasian person doesn't have to deal with racism in their daily life," she said. "Therefore it is not on the forefront of their thought."

What does the future hold?  
"I don't think racism, especially black-on-white racism, can ever be solved because to solve it or to change it would be to change the very essence of our country," Dennis said. "The reason we are the way we are is because of slavery. We need to realize that it isn't solvable and work from there."

Education, at home and in the school system, can be used to avoid the stereotypes people hold about each other. Missouri Southern can recruit minorities and offer more classes on minority issues to educate students about racism. Students can volunteer with organizations that deal with minority issues or have a multicultural population to educate themselves, Kirkland said.

"I want to accomplish the mission of putting racism to a complete halt. Can it happen soon? I think not. Can it happen at all? I have to keep hoping it will," Kirkland said. □

## RELIGION

# What is religion in America?

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD  
EDUCATION EDITOR

It would seem contradictory to say that America is one of the most religious countries in the industrialized West and that it is also aggressively secular. But according to "The Rites of Americans," published in the November 1993 issue of *Newsweek*, both statements are true.

"The United States is a very secular society," said Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology. "Most industrialized and post-industrialized nations are. In the age of communication, science and technology reign supreme. Time is reduced, and the old explanations that religion had to offer are not necessarily valued anymore."

"But on any given Sunday, we'll have 43-44 percent of the population in church, which is high. Compare that to England, which has less than 10 percent."

The popularity of movements such as Promise Keepers and the Million Man March, coupled with the increased political influence of the Christian Coalition, are just some examples of a resurgence of religious fervor. The shift in attitudes is not new in the American experience, nor should it be considered permanent.

"Some historians think history runs in cycles, like a sound wave up and down," said Dr. Robert Markman, associate professor of history. "Sometimes you seem to hit a low spot, but if you wait long enough, you'll hit a high spot again."

"It happens because if people think there is a failure or weakening of something they treasure, they will work hard to make sure it doesn't fail."

Gubera believes the renewed interest in religion may also be tied to the advent of the year 2000.

"With the turn of the millennium, people think more about the world coming to an end," he said. "It causes some people to become very religious, and others shed their inhibitions and wig out."

Increased interest in religion gives rise to increased potential for conflict, both between religion and secularism and between different religions. The percentages of people who practice various faiths has changed, but diversity of religious convictions and concerns about tolerance are not new. □

# Muslim struggles to fit into biased society

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD  
EDUCATION EDITOR

America is often referred to as a "melting pot" because of its ethnic diversity. The term implies a blending and unity, however, that sometimes doesn't match with reality.

One aspect of our diversity that particularly resists blending is the area of religious conviction. As a country founded on the principal of religious freedom, how do we exercise and interpret that freedom today?

Nabil Alami, a native of Morocco, came to the United States eight years ago to play soccer for the University of Oregon. He earned a master's degree in political science there, went on to the University of Colorado for a master's degree in French literature, and recently moved to Joplin where he teaches French at Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School.

Alami, who is Muslim, has had the opportunity to test Americans' openness to other religions in several parts of the country. For the most part, he has encountered suspicion and ignorance.

"They are accepting to a certain extent, especially in areas where there are greater populations of Muslims, such as large university campuses," he said. "But people are suspicious, and even scared, of Muslims."

Alami believes the media deserve a large share of the blame for the bias that Muslim people experience.

"When you hear news of the Middle East, you don't hear the term 'Lebanese terrorist' or 'Moroccan terrorist'; you hear 'Muslim terrorist.' Imagine what an outrage there would have been if the suspect in the Oklahoma City bombing case had been described as a 'Christian terrorist' or a 'Baptist terrorist.' But when it comes to Muslims, the media make sure the connection is made."

Because people usually hear of Muslims in conjunction with the Middle East, many do not realize that Islam is a major religion in several countries. According to Alami, it is the fastest growing religion in the world.

"We have a tendency to think of Islam as being Arab, but countries like Indonesia and Malaysia have more people who practice the religion than the entire Arab world," he said. "In the year 2020, Islam will be the second largest religion in France."

Alami believes ignorance is at the root of most intolerance. The discrimination he experienced usually happened in social and job situations.

In addition to the media, he blames American education for much of the ignorance about his country and his religion.

"Universities participate in perpetuating the ignorance," Alami said. "There are universities that offer language studies in Danish and Swedish, but will not offer Arabic. Now, Arabic is spoken in 21 countries; Danish is spoken in one country."

"American education is very Eurocentric."

Only a few universities offer classes in Arab studies.

The lack of accurate information creates misconceptions about the beliefs and practice of Islam. Alami said because people associate Islam with Iran, they conclude that the Koran teaches a strict repression of women. Instead, Iran's treatment of women stems from political and cultural tradition rather than the Koran.

Just as various denominations of Christianity observe different practices, some of which the Bible does not advocate, so the practice of Islam is not always true to its source.

Alami is not alone in believing that he is often inaccurately labeled. Any religious label may carry a variety of connotations and misconceptions with it. What does it really mean to be "Jew" or a "Mormon" or a "Catholic"?

America is commonly identified as a "Christian" nation, but the word has different meanings to different people. Oddly enough, American Christians might be as likely to face religious discrimination in this country as Moroccan Muslims.

Jessie Kluthe, junior psychology major, notices a subtle bias against religion in general in the college classroom. Religious faith, she said, is often presented as a superstitious response to fear and is viewed as less legitimate than human reasoning.

She believes most of her instructors are accepting of her Christian values, but she does see a bias in the use of language. □





## SIGHTS Sounds & so on

### ON CAMPUS

Spiva Art Gallery  
Nov. 27-Dec. 10—Ceramic and jewelry show and sale.  
Now-8—Senior Exhibit: Nicole Knatcal and Michael Shelton.

Taylor Auditorium  
Dec. 7—Holiday concert: The concert band and the concert chorale combine for an evening of seasonal music.

Dec. 9—An Evening with Elvis: a benefit concert for Cerebral Palsy presented by Darwin "Elvis" Warner.  
Dec. 12—Messiah: Webster Hall auditorium.  
Dec. 9—Suzuki Student Recital.

Dec. 10—Joplin Piano Teachers: student recital Phinney Recital Hall.  
Dec. 14—Choral Society.

### JOPLIN

The Bypass  
624-9095  
Dec. 8—The Bel Airs.  
Dec. 14—Trout Fishing in America.  
The Grind  
781-7999  
Tuesday nights—Open Mic Night.

Thursday nights—Movie Night.  
Dec. 8—Accidents of Influence.  
Dec. 9—Brick and With Core.

Dec. 15—Triptych.  
Dec. 16—Fire of Nero.  
The Java House  
659-8500

Dec. 8—Bleu Cheese.  
Dec. 17—Sixpence None the Richer.  
Dec. 23—Christmas party, with free gift, drawings, caroling, and cookies.  
Dec. 28—King Friday.  
Joplin Little Theatre  
623-3638

Dec. 10—The Choral Company Concert.  
George A. Spiva Center for the Arts  
623-0883

Dec. 1 Jan. 7—Annual Membership Show: All media represented in annual exhibit by members of the Art Center.  
Dec. 7/14—Origami classes taught by Side Melton.

### CARTHAGE

Stone's Throw Dinner Theatre  
417-358-9665  
Dec. 8-10—Little Women.

### SPRINGFIELD

Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts  
1-800-404-3333  
Dec. 8—Rosemary Clooney's White Christmas Party.

Dec. 9—Winter Solstice Concert.  
Jan. 21—Feel the Spirit: gospel music with the Five Blind Boys of Alabama.

Jan. 23-25—Crazy for You.  
Jan. 27—Potato People in School Daze.  
McDonald Arena

Dec. 8—Imagine, the eleventh annual tribute to John Lennon.  
Springfield Ballet  
417-862-1343

Dec. 20-23—The Nutcracker.  
Stained Glass Theatre  
417-831-8001

Now-Dec. 23—A Cry in the Wilderness.  
Jan. 19-March 2—H-Tops.  
Vandivort Center Theatre  
417-869-9088

Dec. 15-17, 29-30—Caberet Noel.  
Dec. 31—First Night Springfield '96.

Jan. 20—Mark Sparks, Crazy as Ever.

### KANSAS CITY

American Heartland Theatre  
816-842-9999  
Jan. 7—Taiffetas.

Kemper Arena  
816-274-1900  
Dec. 7-10—Walt Disney's World on Ice: Snow White and the Seven Dwarves.

### MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## Concert Chorale, bands to merge

By CHRISTY YUN  
CHART REPORTER

It's beginning to sound a lot like Christmas. The Missouri Southern symphonic and jazz band will perform with the Concert Chorale at 7:30 p.m. today in Taylor Auditorium.

"I'm really looking forward to being able to show others what we've been working so hard on and also the chance to hear and perform with the choir," said Heather Cahill, freshman pre-physical therapy major and a flute player for the symphonic band.

In the past, the concerts featured music that was not Christmas music. This year it was decided that the whole concert will be dedicated to Christmas.

"I think it is going to be a good concert," said Karen Cameron, senior music education major and a soprano for the Concert Chorale. "We have a lot of new music to sing and play."

The program begins with the symphonic band playing "The March of the Toys/Totland," "Silent Night," "Christmas Joy," and "Angels We Have Heard on High." The jazz band portion of the concert will feature "Home For the Holidays," "The Christmas Song,"

"Jingle Bells," and "Winter Wonderland."

The Concert Chorale will perform "Sleigh Ride," "Carol of Bells," "I Wonder as I Wander" with soloists Shandi Dozier and Monica Reynolds, "The Little Drummer Boy," and "Go Tell It on the Mountain" with soloists Jill Betts, Brandon Atwell, and Melanie Crouch. The last part of the program will be a combined ensemble with the audience invited to join and sing along.

Liliana Valencia, senior music education major and an alto for the Concert Chorale, said she really enjoys herself.

"The concerts are always exciting, and we get everyone involved," she said. "I think it will be a very entertaining evening for the community," said Linda Butler, freshman elementary education major and a clarinet player in the symphonic band.

The concert is free and open to the public.

"We are very excited and pleased to be presenting this concert to the public," said Pete Havelly, director of the symphonic band and head of the music department. "We hope many people will come to the concert and enjoy the Christmas music." □

### STONE'S THROW DINNER THEATRE

## Director to embark on career with play

Novel adaptation 'captures essence'

By VIRGINIA SHAVER  
STAFF WRITER

Civil War costumes, carol singing 1862 style, and Yankee dessert will all be a part of the celebration at Stone's Throw Theatre today through Saturday.

The theatre will present a three-act comedy, which is a stage version by John Ravold of Louisa Mae Alcott's classic novel, *Little Women*.

"The story deals with the March family during the days of our Civil

War," said Sonya Kew-Johnson, director of the production. "Ravold has captured the essence of Alcott's novel. I have read a number of stage versions, and none even come close to the essentials as does this script."

This is Johnson's first venture as a director. She said the support of the board and the volunteer staff made her first effort much easier.

"Our costumer began work on the period costumes two months ago," Johnson said. "Our auditions produced a cast that will certainly please our patrons, one that met my criteria practically without exception."

— Please turn to  
STONE'S THROW, page 13

### SENIOR EXHIBIT

## Future teachers highlight show



Donald Leffert, freshman theatre major, admires a work, titled 'Essence of Plum,' by Nicole Knatcal. The mixed-media work is part of the exhibit on display in the Spiva Art Gallery until Friday, Dec. 8.

By VIRGINIA SHAVER  
STAFF WRITER

Two aspiring art teachers have combined their works in an exhibit at the Spiva Art Gallery on the Missouri Southern campus.

Works by Michael Shelton and Nicole Knatcal, both senior art education majors at Southern, are on exhibit as a partial requirement of a bachelor of science in education degree.

Two-dimensional and three-dimensional works are shown including drawings, paintings, sculptures, print making, jewelry, crafts, and ceramics.

"This is my first show, and it's an exciting time for me," said Shelton, a non-traditional student.

"When I graduate I will be certified to teach kindergarten through 12th grade," he said.

Knatcal, a 1993 Crowder College graduate, is married and commutes daily from Purdy. She plans to complete her student teaching during the spring semester and graduate in May.

"I have enjoyed all of my art classes and would like to teach in this area," Knatcal said. "Michael and I both want to teach, so we have chosen to place emphasis on education through media."

The art show will continue through Friday. Admission is free, and the exhibit is open to the public. Exhibit hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. □



Salmon



Carney



Ames



Munson-Berg

# 'Tis The Season

## Soloists to accentuate annual Christmas show

By STEPHANIE JOHNSTON  
CHART REPORTER

As the Christmas season once again draws near, Missouri Southern will present the fifth annual production of the "Messiah" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Taylor Auditorium.

"The 'Messiah' performance is a present from the College to the community," said Bud Clark, director of choral activities.

One of Joseph Handel's most famous works, the "Messiah" is the story of the life of Christ, told through a series of choruses and music.

Shown in its entirety, it can last up to four hours, but the Southern production has been shortened to 90 minutes.

"The performance not only has a full orchestra, but also has 250-300 voices," Clark said.

The performance has four soloists, Jane Munson-Berg, soprano; Betty Salmon, mezzo-soprano; Jeff Carney, tenor; and Robert Ames, bass, who are professionals and do not attend Southern.

"We've been practicing every Sunday for the last six weeks to be ready for this performance," Clark said.

College President Julio Leon came up with the idea to perform the "Messiah." He had seen the production and thought it would be a good performance for Southern.

"The 'Messiah' performance is an excellent opportunity for the community to come out and get involved," said Matt Estes, a freshman music major who is part of the chorus. "It's a great performance, and it brings everyone together just before Christmas."

He believes this is an excellent performance because anyone from the high school level and up is welcome to get involved.

KODE-TV will send a crew out to videotape the performance and will air the broadcast at 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve.

"Everyone is welcome to come out," Clark said. "It's a free performance, so I believe Taylor Auditorium will be full." □

### MISSOURI SOUTHERN VIOLIN ACADEMY

## 'Mother tongue' style debated in Japan, U.S.

Academy to hold two recitals on Saturday

By TARA DUBRAY  
CHART REPORTER

In the 1920s before people drove Suzuki cars, Suzuki was a method to teach young children how to play a musical instrument.

It is often called the "mother tongue" approach because children are just beginning to learn their native languages at the same time.

In Japan the Suzuki method is taught to children as young as 2.

This method was not recognized in the United States until the 1960s, and is now taught to children at ages 4 or 5.

"It is very effective for young children," says Kexi Liu, director of the Missouri Southern Violin Academy. "I think it is better to start the method at age 4 or 5, like in the U.S."

Today there are many teachers using the Suzuki method, and it can be taught with different

instruments including the violin, viola, cello, piano, and flute.

Two Suzuki student recitals will be held Saturday in Webster Hall auditorium.

The first recital will begin at 1 p.m., the second at 2:30 p.m., and in between at 4 p.m. there will be a play-in.

A play-in begins with several students performing their most difficult piece of music and generally moving to a lower piece of music while other students join them. The play-in ends with everyone on stage playing one piece of music together.

The recitals consist of 40 students, 20 in each recital, and from ages 4 to 17.

These students have studied technique, new pieces of music, and have prepared themselves for the recital all semester.

The recital not only gives each student a chance to perform, but it shows their parents their progress. □

Kexi Liu  
Director of the  
Violin Academy



JOPLIN CLUB BAND

# Local group craves dancing, fun

## Audiences respond to suit-wearing Big Bad Chubba

By KEVIN COLEMAN  
STAFF WRITER

hey're back, bigger and badder than ever. Big Bad Chubba has been together for about two years, or at least three members the band have been.

They are Arik (Chubba) Gilbert on drums, Tyler Huffman on guitar, and Kelsey Richardson on vocals.

"We've basically been back together for four months," Gilbert said.

"It's basically a whole new band."

Chubba regrouped this summer, adding Chris Gowen on saxophone, Ben Lowe on trombone, Jason Bringle on bass, Chip Gubera on keyboards, and Neil Baughman.

"He (Baughman) just dances," Huffman said.

Bringle is Chubba's third bass player; the first two left the band to go to California.

"I think he (Bringle) wants to stay in the band for the ride," Huffman said.

Big Bad Chubba plays ska, which is "kind of like reggae but with a faster beat, more horns and is easy to dance to," as members explained.

They have been playing the local clubs including The Grind, Culture Shock, The Dead Cowboy, and the ATM Hall in Joplin, and The Magic Bean and Regency in Springfield.

"We're getting ready to play at the Daily Grind in Kansas City," Huffman said, "and we're probably going to play on the KU campus with The Toasters in January."

"We like to play here (The Grind), though," he said.



Big Bad Chubba. (from left) Chip Gubera, Arik (Chubba) Gilbert, Tyler Huffman, Chris Bowen, Jason Bringle, Kelsey Richardson and Neil Baughman, will record their first CD over the Christmas break. The local ska band has been playing Joplin venues such as Culture Shock, The Dead Cowboy, and The Grind.

"because it's a nice place and the owner treats us good, unlike some places."

Band members said they are gaining a following from the crowds in Joplin.

"We are finally getting some good response in Springfield," Huffman said. "We never really had bad response or a bad crowd but the last time we played there a lot of people really liked us a lot."

Gowen said previously the crowds would just sit there, unresponsive.

"It was like 'Look at those guys. What are they doing?'" Gilbert said. "Or, 'They've got horns, what are they for?'"

"Or, 'Why are they wearing suits?'" Huffman added. "Are they going to a funeral?"

Dancing and having fun is what Big Bad Chubba considers a good audience response.

Several of the band members have been hanging out together since grade school and junior high.

Huffman, Gilbert, Gowen, Baughman, and Gubera are students at Missouri Southern, and Lowe is planning to transfer from Pittsburg State University to Southern.

They plan to record their first CD over the Christmas break.

"We want to record 14 songs," Huffman said. "Right now we have about 12 songs, 10 that we would record."

"Right now we're working on two others," Gilbert said.

"So if we get those and throw something else together, and get all laid out over Christmas break...we can get 14 songs recorded."

Big Bad Chubba will perform at The Daily Grind Friday.

33  
[Ska is]  
kind of like  
reggae, but  
with a faster  
beat, more  
horns, and  
is easy to  
dance to.

Big Bad Chubba  
Ska band

99

CHORAL SOCIETY

# Choir aspires to entertain all types

By MICHAEL DAVISON  
STAFF WRITER

Christmas cheer will be spread by the Choral Society in the form of carols at its annual Christmas concert.

"We strive to always have something for everybody, including children," said Dr. Al Carmine, associate professor of music and director of the society.

The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14 in Phillips Hall and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, at the First Community Church, 151st and Connecticut.

The Choral Society is a 40-member choir of college-age students to older adults made up of area residents from Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma.

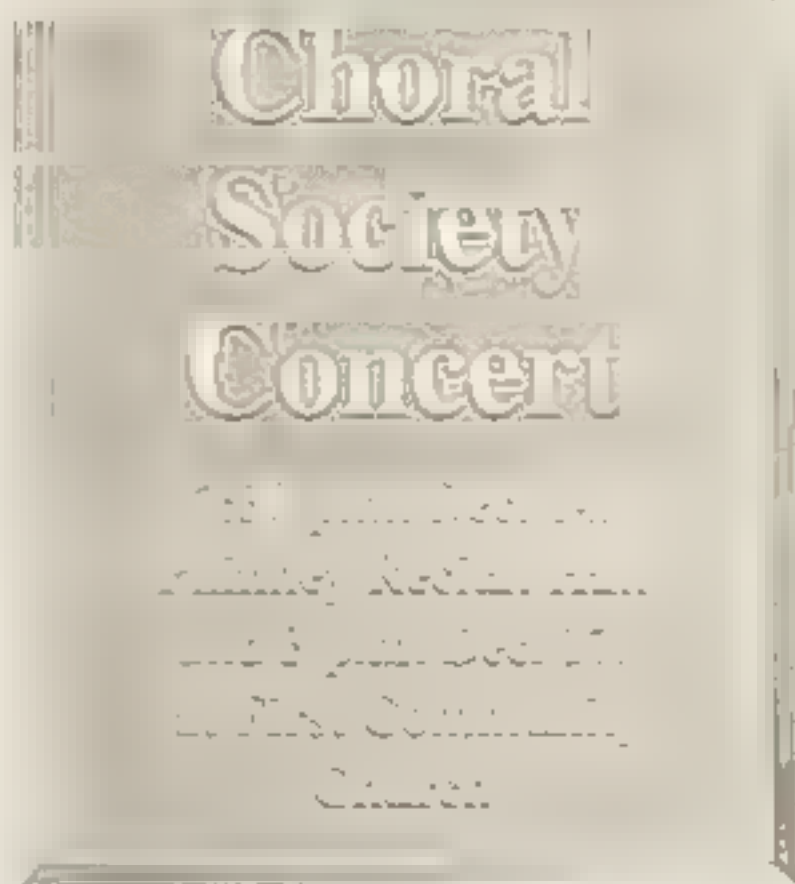
"Our society is open to anybody," Carmine said.

"We don't have auditions."

"We get different types of people," he said.

"We have people with doctorates in music and people who like to sing in the bathtub."

A combination of different styles will be featured in the concert, including classical



works such as "Gloria" by Vivaldi, "Laudate Dominum" for Soprano soloists and choir by Mozart, traditional carols like "Good Christian Men, Rejoice," "O Come, O Come, Ye Faithful," and "Do You Hear What I Hear," and two recent ballads "Because It's

Christmas" by Barry Manilow and "Home For Christmas" by Carl Strommen.

"This goes along with our philosophy of something for everybody," Carmine said.

"We will also have a couple of interesting pieces," he added, "which you wouldn't see at other concerts like this."

One of these pieces, "Nutcracker Jingles," is "Jingle Bells" done in the music of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite."

"It's a very unusual piece," Carmine said. "It's called 'Jingles' and it's just a fun-filled piece for Christmas, for all those humorless people around Christmas who have had it with everything."

Another is "Travelers from the East," which is set in Bethlehem and has people talking about the wise men. This piece is somewhat staged, Carmine said.

Eleanor McLeMore will be the choir's accompanist. She will also perform a solo.

The ensemble, which has been in existence since 1980, meets all year and also has a concert in the spring.

Rehearsals begin at 7 p.m. Jan. 15 in Room 208 in the music building.

## IN YOUR EYE

### Movie fun for all

I walked out of the movie theater after seeing *Toy Story* with many things racing through my head, but all was cast aside when I happened to glance at the movie poster.

To my dismay, the poster said *Toy Story* is rated G. I could hardly believe I had just sat through a 90-minute G-rated movie.

I guess saying I sat through it brings a kind of negative connotation. Rather, I laughed, gasped, sighed, and was relatively in awe of *Toy Story*.

*Toy Story* is the first movie in the history of Hollywood to be completely computer-generated. The fact that the movie was done so realistically by machines was only part of the awe.

The other part of the awe came from the tremendous screen writing by Joss Whedon, Andrew Stanton, Joel Cohen, and Alec Sokolow.

The problem with having the first completely computer-generated motion picture is the writers are likely to be forgotten in the shuffle of animators, studio heads, and voice-over actors.

The plot of *Toy Story* delves into the lives of toys after the bedroom door closes.

Two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks provides the voice of favorite toy Woody. Woody is a cloth cowboy doll who is the leader of his owner's (Andy) toys.

Enter the plastic age. At Andy's birthday party, Buzz Lightyear, whose voice is supplied by Tim Allen, is introduced to the max. Buzz truly believes he is an intergalactic space-hero, but Woody informs him of his true being.

Movie—*Toy Story*, PG  
Actors—Voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, & Don Rickles  
Theatre—Mall Cinema  
Critique—A++  
Rating—G

★★★★—Glued to your seat  
★★★★—Better than homework  
★★★—Rent the video  
★—Don't waste your time

Through a series of adventures, Woody and Buzz become friends, learn a little about what living is all about, and keep the audience entertained.

*Toy Story* allows its audience to experience the movie on the same plane while never pandering to either side.

The children are amused by watching some of their favorite toys come to life and learn a lesson about self-worth and self-concept.

The adults, on the other hand, are amused by watching some of their favorite toys come to life and learn a lesson about self-worth and self-concept.

The power of the script alone makes the movie worthwhile.

However, even with a mediocre script, Don Rickles' performance as Mr. Potato Head would make the movie a must-see. Rickles, not to offend him, is Mr. Potato Head.

I have no idea how much of Rickles' material was written into the script, but I can imagine there were a few moments in the recording studio when the script was cast aside and Rickles was unleashed.

*Toy Story* has every element which would have politicians seeing a happy, shiny future for this country.

It's a wholesome family film with every angle covered for every possible audience.



# PIZZA

BY STOUT

### DOMESTIC BEER Bottles

- Red Dog
- Red Wolf
- Budweiser
- Busch
- Miller G.D.
- Anchor Steam
- Rolling Rock
- K.C. Boulevard - Bully Porter
- K.C. Boulevard - Tenpenny

### Draught

- Budweiser
- Bud Light
- Busch
- Coors Light
- Miller Light
- Elk Mountain Red
- Boulevard Wheat
- Samuel Adams
- St. Pauli Girl
- Miller Genuine Draft
- Red Dog
- Bass Ale
- Guinness Stout

### IMPORTED BEER (BOTTLES)

- Elephant Red - Canada
- Watney's Ale - Canada
- Amstel Light - Netherlands
- Bass Ale - England
- Chinay Red - Belgium
- Corona - Mexico
- Grolsch - Netherlands
- Guinness XX Stout - Ireland
- Harp's Lager - Ireland
- Helneken - Netherlands
- Moretti or Peroni - Italy
- Pilsener Urequeit - Czechoslovakia
- Red Stripe - Jamaica
- Sapporo - Japan
- Spaten Premium - Germany
- Stein Lager - New Zealand
- Tsing-Tao - China
- Warsteiner - Germany

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November 20, 1995 through December 15, 1995

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#### Location of nomination forms:

- Mathews Hall Rooms 223 and 310
- Billingsly Student Center Rooms 102 and 211
- Reynolds Hall Room 210
- Spivey Library Circulation Desk
- Hearnes Hall Room 200
- TPAC Room 214
- Taylor Hall (Ed & Psy) Rooms 232 and 206
- Mansion (Learning Center)

- Young Gymnasium Room 212
- Kuhn Hall Room 210
- Justice Center Room 109
- Technology Building Room
- Alumni House
- Webster Hall (3rd Floor communication office complex)
- (2nd Floor Social Science office complex)

The following rules apply: To be eligible, faculty must be full-time, be teaching at least six credit hours a semester, and must be in at least the third year of teaching at Missouri Southern State College. Nominations may be made by faculty, alumni, and students. Forms should be completed and placed in the campus mailbox 110 located in Office Services, Hearnes Hall Room 106, no later than FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Joplin council debates E-911 with county board

The Joplin City Council, along with representatives of the Jasper County Emergency Dispatch Board, debated the need for a single county system answering station Monday.

Members of the Joplin City Council believe that the single station should be in Joplin's emergency communications center. They base their opinion on what the voters approved when they voted on a sales tax for the system in April 1994.

Members of the Council have, however, discussed other options.

One such option, outlined by city manager Steve Lewis, would examine ways to separate itself from the county system and provide E-911 services to residents directly.

Lewis is in the process of outlining all of the options and preparing a request to present to the board.

County officials continue to argue that the need for a second station is necessary for back-up purposes.

Oronogo sets drug policy for all city employees

Oronogo City Council members adopted a policy Monday night of random drug testing city employees deemed to be working in "safety-sensitive positions."

The council announced that its definition of safety-sensitive covered every city employee.

Oronogo has three full-time employees and is expected to hire another two to utility work.

The council had to adopt a policy of some nature to comply with federal regulations from the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988 and the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991.

Tests can be conducted by the city on pre-employment, "reasonable suspicion" testing, post-accident testing, return to work testing, and follow-up to rehabilitation testing.

County drops charges in sheriff perjury case

Charges were dismissed against former Ottawa County (Okla.) Sheriff Theri Whittle after the judge found there was not enough evidence from special prosecutor Darrell Dowdy from Adair County.

Judge William Thomas told the prosecutor he had not completely met the five elements needed to carry a case.

The perjury case against Whittle began in 1993 after a grand jury indicted him for lying in court during a 1987 murder trial. Whittle was accused of perjury during a preliminary hearing.

The perjury case came from a statement made during the hearing by Whittle claiming he never touched a pair of bloody overalls used in the murder.

Joplin working to annex more area around city

Joplin is awaiting approval by the City Council to begin work on two annexation stations which would take in property southwest of the current city limits.

The area which the city has outlined includes territory along Coyote Drive to south of the intersection of Interstate 44 and Highway 43.

According to city planner Dick Largent, some of the expansions which are being pursued include additional motel construction.

The major expense of the annexation would be getting water and sewer systems down Schifferdecker Avenue, according to city officials.

Because the land is south of 32nd Street, it is necessary for the City Council to petition the Newton County Court.

If the court agrees that the measures are necessary and need to be taken, the city will then provide the required services.

Fred G. Hughes Stadium was packed to the max Saturday, Nov. 25, during the Missouri Class 5A high school football championship game. The weekend resulted in an estimated \$500,000 to \$750,000 worth of additional revenue for city businesses.



City, College benefit from Show-Me Bowl

By J.L. GRIFFIN

All of Missouri and parts of Kansas, Illinois and perhaps a few other states received a good look at Missouri Southern and the city of Joplin over Thanksgiving weekend.

With the Class 1A, 2A and state football championships held at Southern's Fred G. Hughes Friday, Nov. 24 and Saturday, Nov. 25, the College and the city gained a multitude of exposure.

The game was carried in five television markets — Missouri, St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, Jefferson City-Columbia, and Joplin all had coverage of the 5A finale, which saw St. Louis' Hazelwood East rout Blue Springs South 41-3.

The College and the city each spent \$3,000 to advertise during the broadcast of the 5A game.

With Faurot Field at the University of Missouri installing a grass field, the state

championship games were moved to Joplin and Springfield. Southwest Missouri State University played host to the Class 3A and 4A game.

"The High School Activities Association is proper in thinking the young athletes on a muddy day would not have an opportunity to display their skills," said Jigi Frazier, Missouri Southern men's athletics director. "With us having a synthetic surface it put us in a position to host."

However, Frazier said the process actually began five years ago when he and Rusty Shelley, Joplin R-S athletic director, made a presentation to the Missouri State High School Athletics Association, a cooperative between Southern, Joplin and the city of Joplin. The presentation included all and any outdoor athletic events—football, track, soccer, cross country, baseball, and other sports.

After the MSHSAA made a visit to the city and College, Frazier said the reality of the event came to fruition.

He said the College and city received an equal amount of exposure because of the Show-Me Bowl. Mike Greninger, director of sales for Joplin's convention and visitor's bureau, agrees.

"The weekend went fantastic. It was a great event for Joplin," Greninger said.

With an estimated 8,000 people coming in for Show-Me Bowl weekend, Greninger said the city believes it brought in an extra \$500,000 to \$750,000.

"The College and city go hand and hand, and the weekend was a win-win situation for both groups," Greninger said.

The MSHSAA chose the Ramada Inn as the host hotel and brought the chain an extra 125 rooms sold during the weekend.

Ramada Inn manager Wanda Ferrier said she wasn't shocked when her hotel was selected.

She said she was delighted with the decision and the extra guests.

Some believe the exposure Southern got from coverage of the Show-Me Bowl will

help in attracting students to the College.

The interest in the college will likely come from an athletic perspective, but academics was featured in the advertising as well.

"Anytime you've got a chance to display your wares, it's great," Frazier said. "I thought it was a fantastic event for Southern. The visibility will make more persons in the state aware of our location and the fact that we've got a good situation here."

Even though the TV media mislabeled the College, the stadium, and a department head who spoke at halftime, Frazier said people still get the idea.

Joplin Mayor Ron Richard said he's heard nothing but praise for the weekend.

"We talked about how well people liked it at Monday night's City Council meeting. It's just been great; we're going to go after it again," Richard said.

The city and College will have to wait at least a year for the Show-Me Bowl to come back to Joplin, as it is slated for the Trans World Dome in St. Louis next year.

CARTHAGE BUSINESS

Precious Moments begins expansion

By BECKI BROWN



Helping each other to keep from falling, Christine Hildebrandt, B, and her father Carl Hildebrandt learn to skate at Precious Moments' new ice rink.

After creating a chapel and visitors center in Carthage, those angelic, little figurines are still creating their own little slice of heaven.

The Precious Moments Chapel in Carthage is currently under extensive construction adding to the area and making plans to continue construction into late 1996.

"We wanted to give something back to the community," said Walter Howrey, Precious Moments promotions manager. "That is where the idea for the ice skating rink came into play."

Precious Moments has recently added a temporary ice skating rink approximately 60 feet long and 40 feet wide.

A \$3 fee is charged for skating and skate rental.

"We have had several warm and windy days," Howrey said. "As the weather cools down and the holidays approach, people will enjoy it so much."

The rink is open daily from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

In addition to the skating rink, a 51-room, two-suite hotel has recently opened in south Carthage.

The hotel, the closest one to the chapel, is designated in the Precious Moments tradition and features original Sam Butcher art work.

Plans are also being made to complete Dusty's Honeymoon Island by mid-1996. The honeymoon island will feature a Victorian home fully remodeled with two deluxe honeymoon suites and a beautiful ballroom.

"The island itself will be located close to the new church building," Howrey said. "Couples could have the [wedding] ceremony and honeymoon here at Precious Moments."

Precious Moments hopes to have an elegant hotel and an RV park by late 1996. The added accommodations are expected to boost community revenue in Carthage.

"The hotel will feature the finest dining this side of Kansas City," Howrey said.

The Precious Moments chapel estimates that it will receive close to a million visitors by the end of this year.

Precious Moments figurines are now the No. 1 collectables in the world.

"The chapel and its artwork continue to be the center of attention here at Precious Moments," Howrey said. "This is why Mr. Butcher designed the chapel—as a gift for the Lord and people to share."

JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL

Goetz asked back after 7-year absence

By J.L. GRIFFIN

The Joplin City Council has a new member, well, sort of. Don Goetz was voted in by the Council Nov. 20.

Goetz has served Joplin before on the Council as a member from 1976 to 1988, as mayor pro-tem from 1970 to 1980, and as mayor from 1982 to 1984.

Goetz now becomes the interim Zone 1 councilman.

"Being a former mayor, he understands the process, he understands the pressures that

are brought to bear on you, and the biggest thing is he understands the zoning and planning process which is about 75 percent of our business," Joplin Mayor Ron Richard said.

Richard said Goetz was approached by councilman Bernie Johnson. Goetz said he didn't think long about accepting the offer since the position lasts only until April.

"I was a little surprised about being asked," he said. "I hadn't really been very involved with what was going on; I was kind of out of the loop."

Richard said about five others were considered for the position.

"The fact they thought enough of my abilities and I didn't have any real reasons to say no" prompted Goetz to accept the position, he said.

Goetz said he heard he had been named to the position while watching the news that evening.

The spot opened when Joplin businessman Milt Wolf moved out of town and had to resign his seat.

The Council began seeking volunteers for the position from Zone 1. An election in April will

find a replacement for Goetz and a member who will serve a two-year term. One of the applicants who was seeking the interim position, Vic England, expressed an interest in running for the seat in April.

However, the Council wanted someone with previous Council experience and someone who also had no aspirations of a longer term.

Goetz, a 50-year-old realty appraiser, said he has served enough time in public office and has no interest in the seat after April.

JOPLIN BUSINESS

Java House puts a twist to new store

Second effort features mocha and handlebars

By AARON DESLATTE

Staff Reporter

Joplin's newest coffeehouse is sparking interest in the community, but not for the coffee.

Brook Drumm and Brian Williams, who opened The Java House in March, have recently expanded their operations to Fourth and Range Line where they have opened Java House II. The difference between the two stores is that the new Java House is also a bike shop.

"We were shopping for a new store location and Dan Clark, the owner of Joplin Bike and Fitness approached us about opening a combination coffeehouse and bike shop," Williams said. "He runs the bike half, and we run the coffee half."

Drumm and Williams can't take credit for the idea, however.

"Dan had the idea for the store first," Williams said. "He had seen pictures of similar shops in bigger cities, and we both thought it would bring something unique to the area."

The new store opened the first of October and occupies about one-third of the total facility, which is 1,000 square feet in size.

"Most of the bikers who come are also coffee drinkers," Drumm said. "The two go hand-in-hand for some people."

The store's main goal, however, is to attract business from Northpark Mall and Missouri Southern.

"Until now, students have had to contend with mall traffic to get a cup of coffee," Drumm said.

The duo are determined to make the new store successful.



JOPLIN BUSINESS

# Store features used equipment

Play It Again Sports sells area athletes discounted goods

By BRETT HERGENROTHER & BRETT DAWSON  
CHART REPORTERS

Because buying new sporting equipment can put a dent in a person's pocketbook nowadays, Play It Again Sports has given area athletes something to cheer about.

Play It Again Sports, which opened Nov. 14, is a multi-purpose sporting goods store which specializes in used equipment at a discount price.

The store, located at 2401 E. 32nd St. in Joplin, features such items as in-line skates, golf equipment, and exercise equipment, plus much more.

Doug Roberts, the independent owner and operator of the Joplin franchise, said he has seen a steady flow of customers lately. Roberts also said he was certain the store would be ideal for the community.

"I went to one in Kansas City and thought this would be perfect for this town," he said.

Roberts, who has never owned a store before, said he had two primary purposes for opening his unprecedented store.

First, he wanted to offer consumers new and used sporting goods at a reduced price, because sporting equipment is so expensive these days.

The other reason was to provide a way for people to get rid of old sporting goods they do not need or want by trading in, consigning, or selling it to the store without the hassle of advertising in the newspaper or selling in a

garage sale is something the store can help avoid.

"This store provides a great way of getting rid of goods," Roberts said.

Matt Cline, assistant manager and a senior economics major at Missouri Southern, believes the business will do well because of the substantial savings people can receive there.

"You can buy things here for half the price you would pay for it new, and all our equipment is in excellent condition," Cline said.

Jana Roark, sophomore marketing major, said the store had a lot of interesting equipment, but the most interesting items were the in-line skates.

"Play It Again Sports has a good variety of new and used roller blades," Roark said.

"I don't know much about sporting goods, but the salesperson was more than willing to tell me all about the products.

"Even if the prices were higher I would go back because of the help I received while I was there," she said.

One of the things Roark thinks will contribute to the store's success in Joplin is its location.

"It's real easy to find and easy to get to," she said.

Play It Again Sports is unlike any other sports store in the area because of its unique style of business.

Besides swapping and saving, the store also offers customer service and satisfaction.

Free delivery and assembly is offered on all exercise equipment, and a full refund guarantee is rendered to all who are not satisfied.

"I tell people right, be fair and honest, then everything else will take care of itself," Roberts added. □

## EVERYBODY LOVES A PARADE



The Lady Lion mascot mingles with children at the Christmas parade Tuesday. The parade route traveled along Main Street from 20th street to First Street. The Lion Pride Marching Band was also part of the event.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

## STONE'S THROW, FROM PAGE 10

Portraying the four character parts of the little women are Rachel Beckett, Tiana Christopher, Susan Lane, and Amy Shepherd. Other cast members are Michelle Hoag, Karne Hatfield, Zach Catnagay, Mick Corporon, Roy Freund, and Keith Gregory.

Shepherd, who plays the character of Jo, is a graphic arts major at Missouri Southern.

"It has really been a group effort," Shepherd said. "We have worked hard and furiously. It's a great play. It is about family values, hard times, and has lots of humor."

Stage manager is Jeff Johnson, assisted by Rich Lillard. Costume supervisor is Shirley Reynolds. Johnson designed hair and make-up, assisted by Rachel Beckett.

Setting, lighting, and sound are under the supervision of Henry Heckert, with Steve Marshall and D.M. McKinney assisting. Katy Kew is choir supervisor.

"This feels right, with all the principal family situations, the humor, and the pathos of Alcott's novel there for my cast to work with," Johnson said. "I can say this show is suitable for all family members, including the very young."

"I don't think we'll disappoint our patrons with this one, and when they hear our young carolers singing for the March family at Christmas 1862, there'll probably be a few wet eyes!"

Along with the stage production, a special holiday menu is featured. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required for all performances. For further information, people may call (417) 358-9665. □

## INTERN, FROM PAGE 3

learned in college.

"I have a really good understanding now of what I've been doing this whole time," he said. "You see a lot of things you don't see here like program languages, mostly."

"Everything I learned down there. I had no exposure to here at all."

Since the start of the program, about 100 students have interned at

CFI, Empire District, Tamko, Tri-State Motor Transit, and many other local companies.

"A lot of the data processing leaders in the community came out of the internship program," Hartford Tunnell said. "Many of the companies will use this as a training ground to offer the students full-time employment once they've finished."

The program has given students opportunities, despite the doubts many people had about its potential, Hartford Tunnell said.

"We're pretty excited about the new things that are opening up for us," he said. "When we started this out, there were a lot of people who felt like the community wasn't big enough to really support an internship." □

The Chart will publish its first issue of the new year on January 25, 1996.

## The Pizza Hut® Pop Quiz

- When I'm really hungry I:
  - go home for the weekend and eat enough for the month.
  - arm wrestle with roommate for the last packet of calsup.
  - grab all my friends and head to Pizza Hut.
- The most important thing I've learned in college is:
  - how to live on my own and be independent.
  - that hard work truly does lead to success.
  - that I can eat two large Meat Lover's pizzas in under five minutes if I really put my mind to it.



This Month's Special - Specialty Stuffed Crust Pizza, one Large just \$12.99. Add Pepperoni to your crust for just \$1 more!

### Dine-In / Carryout

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Delivery  
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### LARGE DEAL

Any Large Specialty Pizza  
**\$11.99**

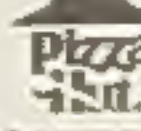
(Not Valid on Stuffed Crust Pizza)  
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### MEAL FOR TWO

Medium Single-Topping Pizza & 2 Drinks  
**\$8.99**

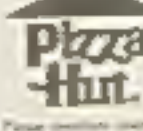
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### GREAT DEAL

**\$3 Off** any Large Pizza!  
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# W A F F L E H O U S E

ALL YOU CAN EAT MENU  
SERVED FROM 11 A.M. TO 11 P.M.  
SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

**\$4.29**

Ages 4 - 10 \$2.19 - 3 and under FREE  
CHOOSE FROM ANY OF THE FOLLOWING  
(ONE MEAL AT A TIME PLEASE) NO SUBSTITUTIONS

Waffle  
Raisin Waffle  
Pecan Waffle  
Eggs  
Bacon  
Sausage  
Grits  
Hashbrowns  
Egg Sandwich  
Plain Omelet  
Cheese Omelet  
1/4 lb. Hamburger

1/4 lb. Cheeseburger  
Bacon 1/4 lb. Cheeseburger  
Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato  
Bacon & Egg Sandwich  
Grilled Cheese  
Sandwich  
Sausage & Egg  
Sandwich  
Scuttlebutt  
Tossed Salad  
Vegetable Beef Soup  
Toast

WE ARE NOW HIRING FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME, FLEXIBLE HOURS.  
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. COOKS STARTING PAY \$5.75 PER HOUR. WAITRESS/WAITERS \$5.00 TO \$10.00 PER HOUR.



Sports  
SCOPESaint Nick  
pays a visit  
to Southern

**T**in the season of giving, and being the (Saint) Nick that I am, here are my gifts to the fall coaches of Missouri Southern.

First present goes to head coach Jon Lantz of the football team. A round-trip airline ticket to anywhere he wants. Keep up the good recruiting, man.



**Nick Parker**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Second present goes to the new aspect to its offense with his ability to scramble and run.

Next, from under the tree, a giant muleskin rug goes to volleyball coach Debbie Traywick. Traywick and her Lady Lions dealt the Jennies of Central Missouri State only their second conference loss in the history of MIAA volleyball.

Losing only one senior, Lyn Dee Harrelson, Southern can expect more Mule-bashing from its young and powerful hitters in the future.

Newcomer Jim Cook needs an additional soccer team for the MIAA, or the conference's soccer affiliation could cease to exist. So, I choose to "give" him Drury College to rekindle the once-heated rivalry between the two schools. Drury would also bring fresh competition to the small soccer conference.

Second-year tennis coach Jill Fisher gets a giant spotlight to point down on her courts here at Southern. Fisher's little-known MIAA sport has played well in the fall half of its season. Sophomore Callie Frye and freshman Heather Andrews look to be a conference force when the season kicks into gear next semester.

If the civic center doesn't happen, I give coach Larry Clay a new championship golf course. Maybe he'll allow shorts and beer on the course. Senior Heath Holt ripped up the MIAA greens throughout most of the fall half of the season.

Women's cross country coach Patty Vavra gets a plane-load of New Zealanders for next season's squad. With Southern's new World Wide Web browser they should be able to talk with mom and dad back home any time they want.

Senior Rhonda Cooper will be missed and tough to replace. The rest of Vavra's squad fared well this season, finishing fourth at the regional meet.

You knew it was coming: the lump of coal goes to cross country coach Tom Rutledge.

I keep hearing rumors of him being a bad boy this year. Three of Rutledge's top runners might not return for next season. But who listens to rumors anyway? Most turn out to be false.

The cross country season wasn't all bad, though. Sophomore John Wilks ran over much of the conference while advancing to the national meet.

Well, folks, I hope you've enjoyed this little peek under the tree. It's time for me to hop into my sleigh and deliver the rest of the gifts. So many coaches, so little time.

Merry Christmas to all sports fans and to all a good night. ☐

*Nick Parker*

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Trust in team's ability key in 6-0 start

Several factors lift  
Lady Lion hoopsters  
to flawless start

By NICK PARKER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**D**espite a mostly new squad and a new coach, the Lady Lion basketball team has jumped out to a 6-0 start this season.

The Lady Lions' most recent victory came Saturday in Canton, Mo., 92-78 over Culver-Stockton College. Head coach Carrie Kaifes says the team's success comes from building trust and a belief in each other. Another big key has been the play inside.

"They are learning about each other," she said. "The big key is believing in each other. The outside threat we've had in the past is still there, but we've added the inside play this season."

Senior Melissa Grider has given the Lady Lions a boost with her MIAA-leading 26.7 scoring average and 160 total points.

Kaifes said she is pleased with her ability to step up as a team leader.

"This is a new Melissa Grider; she is counted on to do things she's never done before and she's doing it," Kaifes said. "We believe in her and what she can do."

The new Lady Lions have fit in well at Southern, Kaifes said. She said everyone is doing their job and learning to believe in each other.

"We are very lucky to have April [Bailey]. She comes in off the bench playing either of two posi-

66  
They are  
learning about  
each other.  
The big key is  
believing in  
each other.

Carrie Kaifes  
Lady Lion coach

tions and does it well.

"She is usually the first person off the bench. Mel [Grider] and Marie [Scott] are the key for us; everyone else will have to raise up a level."

Southern's next match-up is 7 p.m. Saturday at Young Gymnasium against Pittsburg State.

"We just have to keep them off the boards and not be afraid of them at all," Kaifes said.

"We have to attack them. They will try to run; we have to stop that. I'm confident in what we can do. If they try to stop us with the zone, we will kill it."

As far as the rest of the season goes, Kaifes said the inside play is what will take the Lady Lions far.

"If we get the ball inside, we will do OK," she said. "I don't think anyone can handle us on the inside. Our belief in each other and our inside play is the key for the season."

The Lady Lions will travel to California Dec. 29-30 for the California State University-Stanislaus Classic before the start of conference play on Jan. 3. The conference opener is against PSU in Pittsburg. ☐



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart  
Lady Lion senior guard Melissa Grider, who leads Southern in scoring average at 26.7 points per game takes it to the hoop Tuesday in practice.

Grider  
steps up  
as leader

By NICK PARKER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**O**ne of the many bright spots so far for the Lady Lions has been senior Melissa Grider.

Grider is among the top 10 in five of the MIAA statistical categories. She leads the conference in scoring with 160 points and a 26.7 average.

Head coach Carrie Kaifes said Grider's 32-point performance at Culver-Stockton Saturday was a turning point for the guard.

"It was a big deal because it was away," she said. "Most of her big games have been at home. She was happy to have a big game on the road."

In the MIAA, Grider is fourth in three-pointers made, eighth in steals, ninth in free-throw percentage, and fifth in three-point percentage.

Kaifes also said one of the reasons Grider has done well is because she is happier with herself.

"She is real happy and learning more about herself," Kaifes said. "She ran every day during the semester and was ready for the season." ☐

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Southern 'learning a lot'  
despite sub .500 record

By RICK ROGERS  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**G**etting the bugs out of their system is the approach head coach Robert Corn and the Missouri Southern basketball Lions have taken after starting the season 2-3 heading into Saturday's home action against Cameron University.

"We are finding out about our team and have learned a lot about ourselves in these first five games," Corn said. "We have a lot of new faces with only three returning players, so now we are trying to put people in positions where they can be successful."

"I'm not happy with 2-3, but at the same time a lot of questions are being answered which will help us in the long run."

The Lions came home empty after a two-game road swing, losing to Central Arkansas 83-79 and Henderson State 72-67. Corn said poor execution in the final minutes of both games was the main reason for the defeats.

"We are doing some good things and playing well enough to put us in the position to win games," he said.

"But in some cases we are not playing well enough to win the games. We are having key breakdowns in crucial times, which have hurt us. But on the defensive side of the ball we have played really well. Our defense has basically carried us so far."

The trio of 6-foot-6 forward Torrius Fisher, 6-7 center Joe Drum, and 6-9 center Matt Olson have been the key for Southern under the basket. Fisher leads the team in rebounds, averaging 6.8 a game.

Corn said the lack of offensive rebounding hurt the Lions in their three losses. Southern allowed Henderson State to pull down 18 offensive rebounds on its way to a five-point victory.

Corn cited a poor shooting percentage and an abundance of turnovers as other reasons for the Lions' demise.

Southern shot 39 percent from the field over the two-game stretch



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart  
Lance Robbins, junior guard for the Missouri Southern basketball Lions, drives through the lane. The Lions will play Cameron Saturday.

and has committed 95 turnovers this season.

"Our offense is not where it needs to be," Corn said. "Our shooting percentage is hurting us, and we are just not shooting the basketball the way we need to. Turnovers and the lack of rebounding have really been a problem for us."

Corn said one bright spot in the Lions' backcourt has the play of 5-10 senior guard Eddie Reece. In five games, Reece leads the Lions in scoring, averaging 19.4 points, and is shooting 38 percent past the three-point arch.

"He has played extremely well," Corn said. "He is our leading scorer, but he has also done a nice job on the defensive end controlling the other team's off-guard. He is just having a good year so far."

Olson, the Neosho High School product, sparked the Lions' sec-

ond-half surge against Henderson State, scoring all of his season-high 19 points after intermission. Corn said it will be only a matter of time and experience until Olson, who is averaging 7.6 points a game, becomes a force for the Lions.

"He came of age a little bit in the Henderson State game," he said. "He is getting better and better, and every game he is improving and learning."

Corn said one thing which could help the Lions come conference play is simple—experience.

"When you look at all the teams we have played, they are all [NCAA] Division II teams," he said. "It is not the situation where we have brought in weaker competition to try to build stats. I feel like we are really answering some questions with the competition we are playing." ☐

## TRACK &amp; FIELD

Ramsey, Cooper  
to lead tracksters

By RYAN BRONSON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

**T**rack and field coaches Tom Rutledge and Patty Vavra are pumping up their squads for the indoor track season, which won't be easy because both the men's and women's team enter the season with some problems.

Jason Ramsey makes his return in the decathlon. The men's team is hampered by football injuries—that's right, football injuries.

All-conference sprinter and Lions' wideout James Thrash is coming off a collarbone injury.

Thrash was the conference champion in the 100 and 200 meters last year.

Also, first-year thrower Richard Jordan is bothered by a bone chip in his elbow.

Jordan was voted as one of three MIAA most valuable players for his efforts on the defensive line this fall for the Lions' football squad.

"We're kind of hoping that these guys will heal up," Rutledge said. "It's good that the football players are willing to help us out."

Rutledge said senior Paul Baker will be tough in the middle distances.

Another bright spot for the Lions this winter could be sophomore Jon Wilks.

Wilks, who is coming off a five-year layoff because of a stint in the armed forces, recently returned from the NCAA Division II national cross country meet where he placed 52nd out of 158 competitors.

Rutledge said Wilks ran a good race but had a chance to do even better.

"He raced well," Rutledge said. "He was in 15th position at the four-mile mark. The pack he was with made a real hard surge on him. When he surged he said he just tightened up and it was hard for him to get back in the race."

"Those things happen."

Rutledge said 14 out of the top

25 finishers were foreign athletes.

The women's team is hampered by a sheer lack of numbers. The team consists of just 14 members, but Vavra thinks her team could prove to be spoilers.

"That's not the number we'd like to have," Vavra said. "It's more than we had last year."

"I think we'll be one of those spoilers that makes a difference in who does win the championship."

The women's team will be strongest in the distance events. Senior Rhonda Cooper is looking to tear up the conference in the 1,500 and 3,000 meters and Kathy Williams could show strong in the 5,000 meters, Vavra said.

"They had a good cross country season this fall," Vavra said, "so they have a pretty positive attitude coming in."

Another senior, Mary Adamson, will try to regain the conference title in the heptathlon, which she earned two years ago. Last year, she finished fifth.

Vavra also said the team will have depth in sprints.

Sophomore Delana Lofland should be a point scorer for the Lady Lions and incoming freshman Heather Hoyle from Carl Junction, should also be competitive.

Vavra said the team will be looking for jumpers, which is expected to slide a bit after the loss of Tongula Walker, who was a senior last year.

Michelle Heimerman, a transfer from Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College, will compete in the field events for Vavra. Heimerman was a top recruit as an All-American in the hammer throw in the NJCAA level last season.

Last weekend, more than 1,800 athletes came to Missouri Southern for an AAU meet. Rutledge said it was an exciting weekend for some of the young athletes as former Olympic gold medalist and world record holder Jim Ryun spoke during the opening ceremony. ☐



# Fall athletes earn awards

## Lions, Lady Lions receive All-MIAA team selections

By RYAN BRONSON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Three members of the Missouri Southern football team were named to the first team of the all-MIAA football team last month.

Lions' defensive end/linebacker Richard Jordan, a junior, was a unanimous choice. Jordan, along with Pittsburg State linebacker B.J. McGovern and Northeast Missouri State tailback Jarrett Anderson, was named the league's most valuable player.

"That is a great honor for a junior," head football coach Jon Lantz said. "I feel like he (Jordan) was the best player in the league. He's a dominant player. He's got the potential to be in the Rod Smith category."

Lions joining Jordan on the first team were senior offensive lineman Yancy McKnight and senior linebacker Melvin Monel.

Senior tailback Albert Bland, senior offensive lineman Don Beck, and junior safety Rob Townsend were named to the second team for Southern.

Jordan and McKnight, a 6-foot-5, 296-pound three-year starter for the Lions, were also named to the CoSIDA all-region first team. McKnight was the leading vote-getter, showing up on 23 of the 30 bal-

66  
He's got feet. Most [NCAA] Division-II linemen don't have feet—that's why they are in Division II and not Division I.  
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lots. Monel earned second-team honors.

Lantz said he was a little surprised that McKnight was the top vote-getter.

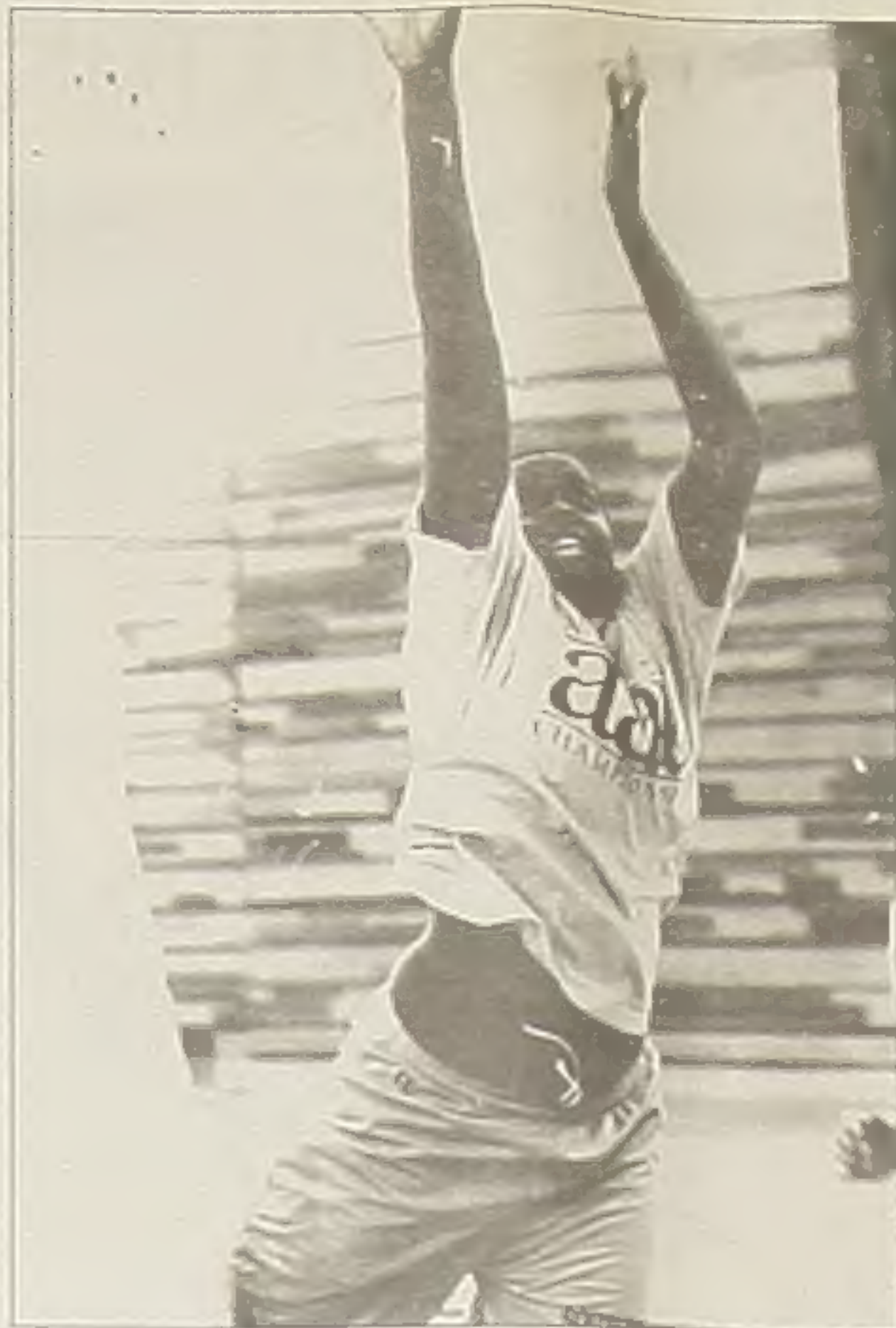
"Linemen usually don't get that kind of recognition," he said. "From what I've heard, he'll probably get invited to someone's [NFL] camp, even if it's as a free agent."

"He's got feet. Most [NCAA] Division II linemen don't have feet—that's why they are Division II and not Division I."

The Lady Lions' volleyball team also earned individual awards. Sophomore Stephanie Gockley made first-team all-MIAA for the second straight year, and juniors Jenny Easter and Neely Burkhart earned spots on the second team.

The Lady Lions will lose only one starter from this year's team, which placed fourth in the MIAA and fifth in the region with a 27-7 record.

This year's team also was the first Southern team to beat Central Missouri in volleyball since the birth of the conference. □



Junior transfer center Marie Scott attempts a rebound during Tuesday's practice. The Lady Lions hold a perfect 6-0 record so far.

### CULTS, FROM PAGE 3

brainwashed they are like robots. He referred to Jim Jones, the religious leader who got his members to drink Kool-Aid while watching others die who had drunk it.

Charles Manson got his followers to kill for him after convincing them how evil their victims were. Koresh persuaded his followers to die with him.

"Many of the cults' teachings are ridiculous," Kahaner said.

"A Japanese cult teaches you can dance away your troubles; just donate to the leader.

"A satanic group gives a certificate declaring you to be a satanist, if you send them \$25."

The slides shown by Kahaner were graphic.

He pointed out the fallacy of many of them. He showed no human sacrifices, just animals and chickens.

One slide showed a crucifix upside down.

The federal law provides protection for the beliefs of cultists, but there is no protection for their acts, Kahaner said. □

# 2-time champs next up for PSU

## OT victory catapults Gorillas into clash with UNA for title

Pittsburg State's football team advanced to the NCAA Division II national championship game for the third time during head coach Chuck Broyles six-year tenure.

The Gorillas (12-0-1) will travel to Florence, Ala., to take on two-time defending national champion North Alabama (13-0).

PSU advanced by defeating Texas A&M-Kingsville 28-25 in the semi-final game Saturday.

Pittsburg led 22-8 at the end of the third quarter, but the Javelinas scored twice in the final 15 minutes to send the game into overtime.

In a Kansas City tiebreaker,

Kingsville was awarded first possession and scored on a 30-yard field goal by place-kicker John Cortez.

Four plays later, the Gorillas closed the book on Texas A&M-Kingsville's season senior quarterback Jeff Moreland turned the corner for an 8-yard touchdown. Moreland, who quarterbacked the Gorillas' national championship season in 1991, was awarded player of the game honors from KOAM-TV.

The game represented the most points scored against the Gorillas all year.

Missouri Southern head coach Jon Lantz said he was excited for the Gorillas.

"It really says something for our conference," Lantz said.

Lantz said it also says something about the Lions, who narrowly lost to the Gorillas 15-14 in a midseason clash at Hughes Stadium. □

Join *The Chart* sports staff:

Assistant Sports Editor needed for spring semester. Apply at *The Chart* office, room 333 Webster Hall or call Nick Parker at ext. 9311.

# Southern Scoreboard

The scores, stats, and numbers every Lions fan should know.

## Basketball

MIAA Standings (As of Dec. 6)

	Overall WLT	Conf. WLT
Central Missouri	5-0	0-0
Missouri-Rolla	4-0	0-0
Missouri Western	4-1	0-0
Northwest Missouri	4-2	0-0
Washburn	3-3	0-0
Southwest Baptist	3-3	0-0
Missouri Southern	2-3	0-0
Northeast Missouri	2-3	0-0
Lincoln	2-4	0-0
Pittsburg State	2-4	0-0
Emporia State	2-5	0-0
Missouri-St. Louis	1-3	0-0

## MIAA Stats

Scoring

1. Jeran Cobb, sr, MWSC, 122 pts, 24.4 avg.
2. Brian Basich, sr, NMSU, 80 pts, 20.0 avg.
3. Eric Bickel, sr, UMSL, 82 pts, 20.5 avg.
4. Oke Key, sr, LU, 87 pts, 19.4 avg.
5. Eddie Reese, sr, MSSC, 97 points, 19.4 avg.
6. Dan Bue, sr, WU, 115 pts, 19.2 avg.
7. Eric Patterson, jr, SBU, 90 pts, 18.0 avg.
8. Greg Schmieding, sr, SBU, 107 pts, 17.8 avg.
9. Jamie Bruggeman, sr, UMR, 70 pts, 17.5 avg.
10. Dwayne Chastin, jr, SBU, 104 pts, 17.3 avg.

Rebounding

1. Rob Layton, sr, ESU, 63, 10.5 avg.
2. Oke Key, sr, LU, 52, 10.4 avg.
3. Kelvin Richardson, jr, CMSU, 51, 10.2 avg.
4. Marlon Burton, sr, MWSC, 47, 9.4 avg.
5. Cory Parker, jr, NMSU, 36, 9.0 avg.

## MIAA Stats

Scoring

6. Eric Bickel, sr, UMSL, 84, 8.5 avg.
- James Bruggeman, sr, UMR, 34, 8.5 avg.
8. Rodney Hawthorne, jr, UMSL, 33, 8.25 avg.
9. Marc Eddington, sr, PSU, 48, 8.17 avg.
10. Eric Patterson, jr, SBU, 38, 7.6 avg.

Free Throw Percentage

1. Greg Schmieding, sr, SBU, 94.7 pct.
2. Derrick Smith, sr, NWMSU, 80.8 pct.
3. Joe Drum, jr, MSSC, 83.3 pct.
4. Brian Basich, sr, NMSU, 82.4 pct.
5. Eddie Reese, sr, MSSC, 81.3 pct.
6. Paul Taylor, sr, NMSU, 80.0 pct.
7. Troy Chapp, jr, SBU, 79.0 pct.
8. Tim Holloway, jr, UMR, 76.2 pct.
9. Jeran Cobb, sr, MWSC, 74.2 pct.
10. Aaron Elliot, sr, SBU, 73.3 pct.

Cam Lindsay, jr, UMR, 73.3 pct.

## Basketball

MIAA Standings (As of Dec. 6)

	Overall WLT	Conf. WLT
Missouri-Rolla	6-0	0-0
Missouri Southern	6-0	0-0
Central Missouri	5-0	0-0
Southwest Baptist	5-1	0-0
Lincoln	4-1	0-0
Missouri Western	4-2	0-0
Northwest Missouri	4-2	0-0
Northeast Missouri	3-2	0-0
Pittsburg State	4-3	0-0
Washburn	3-3	0-0
Emporia State	2-3	0-0
Missouri-St. Louis	2-5	0-0

## MIAA Stats

Scoring

1. Melissa Grider, sr, MSSC, 160 pts, 26.7 avg.
2. Tom Wood, jr, MWSC, 95 pts, 19.0 avg.
3. Sheila Lucipod, jr, LU, 75 pts, 18.8 avg.
4. Rachel Matukas, sr, CMSU, 89 pts, 17.8 avg.
5. Marie Scott, jr, MSSC, 101 points, 16.8 avg.
6. Stacy Humphrey, sr, ESU, 82 pts, 16.4 avg.
7. Christie Williams, sr, UMR, 112 pts, 15.0 avg.
8. Kristy Brown, sr, NMSU, 80 pts, 16.0 avg.
9. Jenni Miller, jr, PSU, 109 pts, 15.7 avg.
10. Beck Reichard, sr, UMR, 108 pts, 15.43 avg.

Rebounding

1. Marie Scott, jr, MSSC, 93, 15.5 avg.
2. Heather Hartman, jr, UMR, 64, 8.1 avg.
3. Stacy Humphrey, sr, ESU, 44, 8.8 avg.
4. Amy Ragen, jr, NMSU, 43, 8.6 avg.
5. Emily Shopper, jr, WU, 51, 8.5 avg.

## MIAA Stats

Scoring

6. Jessica Abele, jr, PSU, 57, 8.1 avg.
7. Danielle Box, sr, SBU, 56, 8.0 avg.
- Jenny Pracht, sr, PSU, 55, 8.0 avg.
- Gretchen Lacey, jr, CMSU, 40, 8.0 avg.
10. Jenny Man, jr, MWSC, 39, 7.8 avg.

Free Throw Percentage

1. Sandra Cunningham, sr, MSSC, 88.0 pct.
- Tobi Rees, jr, UMR, 85.0 pct.
3. Monica Osborn, jr, NWMSU, 83.3 pct.
4. Christie, sr, UMR, 81.1 pct.
5. Annie Coy, sr, NWMSU, 80.0 pct.
- Rachel Matukas, sr, CMSU, 80.0 pct.
- April Adams, jr, LU, 80.0 pct.
8. D.J. Martin, sr, UMSL, 79.2 pct.
9. Melissa Grider, sr, MSSC, 78.0 pct.
10. Alicia Hagard, sr, LU, 77.3 pct.

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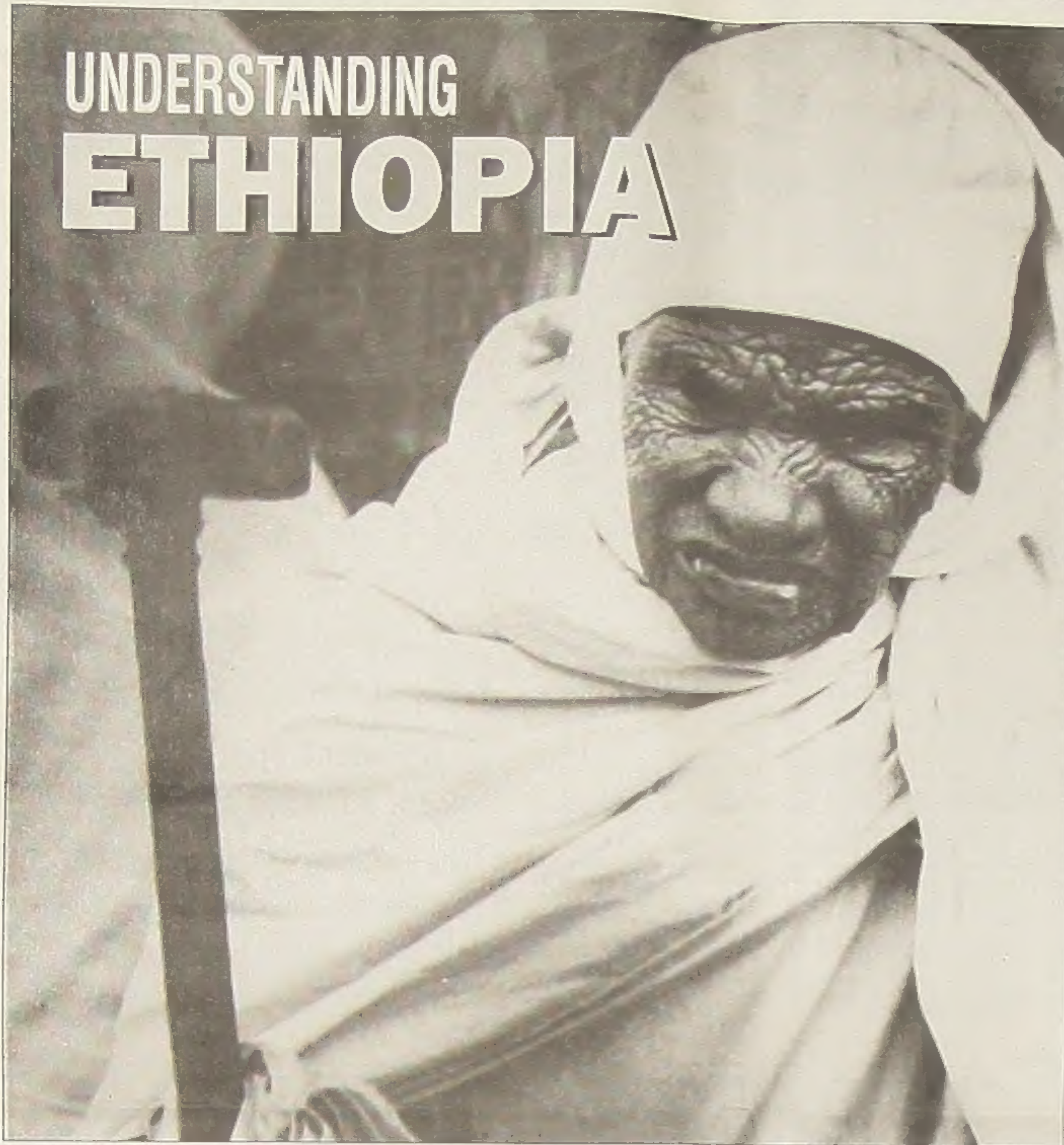
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# UNDERSTANDING ETHIOPIA



FEKADU KIROS/The Chart

A "menekese" (elderly women who devote their lives to church at old age) attends the ceremony of St. Gabriel held every 19th day of each month on the Ethiopian calendar. The stick she is holding is part of the Ethiopian church tradition dating back to the early days of Christianity.

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*I have been asked several times in different words 'So, how come you're alive?' Good question. While the question doesn't necessarily offend me, ... it makes me fail to talk about the rich aspects of my country.*

Fekadu Kiros  
Campus Editor

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A Closer Look at...

## Ethiopia

• 10th largest country in Africa with an area of 1,235,000 square kilometers.

• Two main religions worshiped; Muslim and Christian. The Oromos, the largest ethnic group in the country, are mixed with Christian, Moslem, and pagan communities.

• Coffee is said to have originated in Ethiopia from a place called Kaffa located in the south.

• The costumes of Ethiopian people are as varied and interesting as the population itself, reflecting ancient and modern trends in decoration, the fanciful as well as the practical.

• Ethiopia still retains the Julian calendar. The year is divided into 12 months of 30 days each and a 13 month of five or six days. The Ethiopian calendar is seven years and eight months behind the Gregorian calendar.

## Native reflects on nation's history, battle with poverty

By FEKADU KIROS  
CAMPUS EDITOR

It is one of those rare moments for me. I actually sit down to watch TV. Excited, I flip through the channels. I pause for a second on VH-1 to hear the host complimenting Hollywood for its dedication to fighting hunger. She then presents "We Are the World." As I sit there watching, my mind unwillingly fills with memories.

It is 1985 and I am in Ethiopia. I am sitting in the kitchen with my siblings as my father calls for us to join him in the living room where he is watching TV. Although not much for music, especially music from the West, my dad is glued to the TV watching "We Are the World." Until then, I did not know millions of Americans were giving money for us "poor and dying" Ethiopians. I never imagined either that America would be stuck with the image of an Ethiopia which had nothing but dead people.

I have been asked several times in different words, "So, how come you're alive?" Good question. While the question doesn't necessarily offend me, it puts me on the defensive. It makes me fail to talk about the rich aspects of my country. It makes me spend half my energy defending Ethiopia or explaining the extent of the famine's effect. Mostly, that question makes me realize that out of all our history and legacy, the famine is the one (and mostly only) aspect of my country most people know.

Now, sitting in this strange place and guided by VH-1, I take a trip back to my homeland and my 18 years there.

Life in Ethiopia was pleasant for the most part. Having been born and raised in Addis Ababa, the capital city, I was blessed with luxuries most people didn't have. I was able to interact with people of different cultures both from Ethiopia and the rest of the world in my day-to-day life. It was a priceless luxury to attend a school which had 60 different nationalities represented from around the globe.

Addis Ababa is a beautiful and a very cosmopolitan city of five million people. It houses the largest open-air market in Africa, it has several ethnic restaurants (from Indian to Mexican), art galleries, night clubs, and all the other characteristics of what a city is supposed to be in the measurements of the "developed nations." It is by no means Paris or Rome, though. It has unique characteristics. The most modern buildings stand side by side with simple country-style huts surrounded by cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys, and chickens. The cattle roam the city, and it is customary for vehicles to stop so the cattle can cross the street. It is easy to get lost since street numbers and names are a rare luxury.

I took advantage of the opportunities to travel within and outside Ethiopia. In my travels and studies, I have learned the legacy and the history.

How old is Ethiopia? I have yet to find a source that states the exact date it came into existence. Ethiopia is referred to both in the Old and the New Testament. Does that mean Ethiopia was around at the supposed time the Bible was first written? I don't know. Logic would definitely detect that. The most complete and the oldest human skeleton, estimated at more than 3.5 million years old and nicknamed Lucy, was found in a place called Hadare, Wollo (northeast Ethiopia). Is the country 3.5 million years old? Is it the origin of humanity? Frankly, I am not sure.

Ethiopia also made its mark on history by being the first African country to defeat a European power. The Italian government attempted to colonize the country twice, the second time under the guidance of Mussolini. The day Ethiopians defeated the Italian government is still a public holiday celebrated with much patriotism.

Ethiopia is also the only country in Africa with its own languages and its own unique alphabet. More than 80 registered languages are spoken in the country.

The legend of the country is truly endless. Claims have been made that the Ark of the Covenant lies in the country, that the Queen of Sheba was an Ethiopian who gave birth to King Solomon's son (Menilek) who became Ethiopia's king in the 19th century. Emperor Haile Selassie is believed to be a descent of Menilek. The Rastafarians, a religious sect in Jamaica, believe Haile Selassie is the almighty God. Thus, they worship him much as Christians worship God and take him as a Savior.

My country's rich history fills me with pride,

but some things bother me deeply about this place I call home. The constant abuse of human rights highlights my discontent.

While the city people lived a good life in terms of the availability of goods, the fear for one's life and intellectual well being was never too far away. Most of the people were not directly affected by the famine in the north, but the abuse of human rights in the city was a constant reminder of a life that is less than perfect.

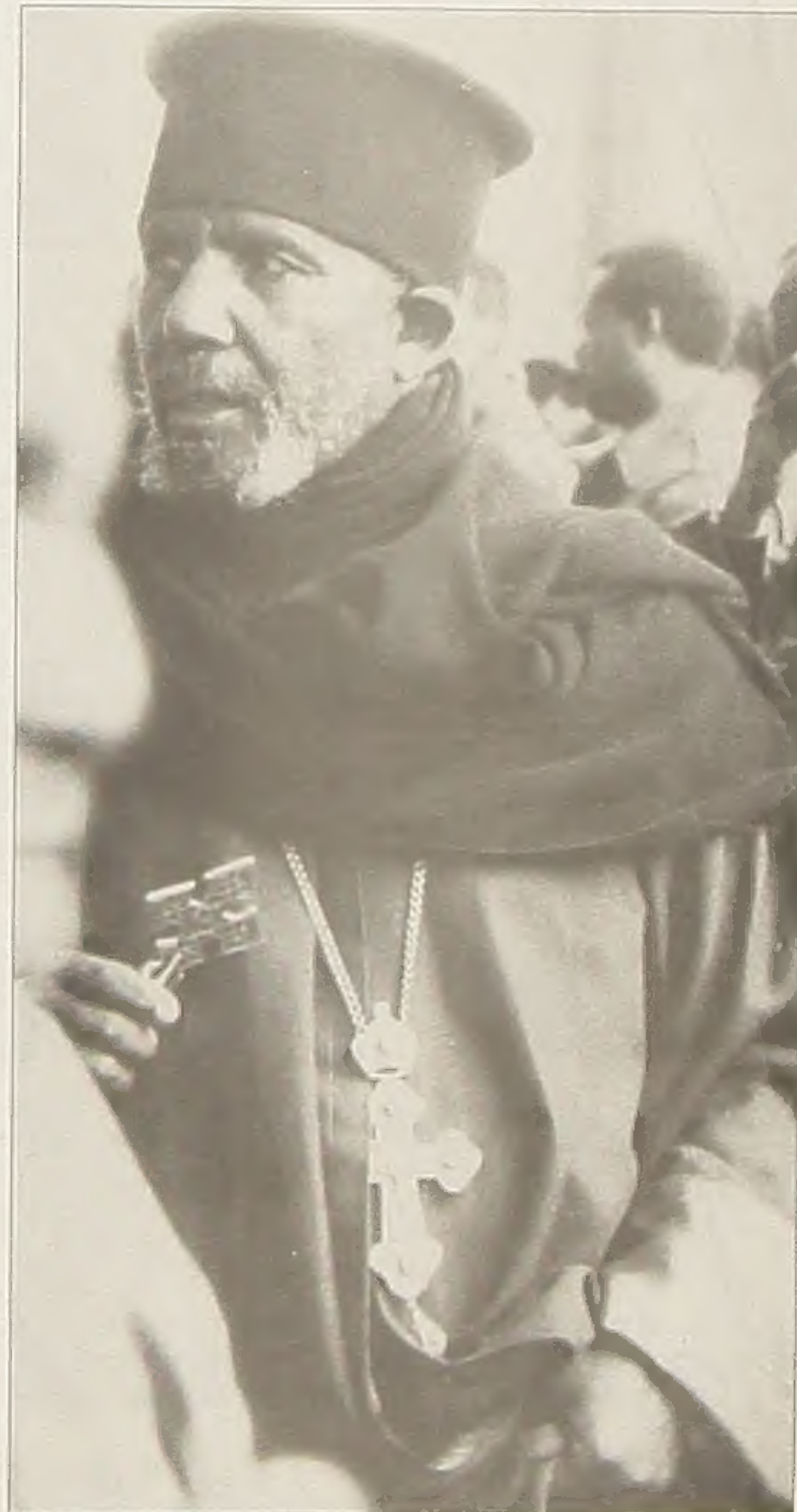
As a 10- and a 12-year-old, I thought every country had a curfew after midnight. I never questioned this assumption. Anyone seen walking between the hours of midnight to 5 a.m. would be in serious trouble—getting killed by the police or ending up in jail for years were not uncommon punishments for this offense. This ridiculous law was abolished upon the arrival of the rebels in May 1991.

I remember my brothers staying home from school many times because the government would send troops to school to pick up the men who "looked strong enough" to go to war. This incident would also occur in the downtown area. The troops would drive a truck and pick up the "abled men" for the war. After three months of training, the men would be sent to fight in the civil war in the north.

The government even spent more than \$20 million decorating the capital city to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the "people's revolution." People were starving in north Ethiopia at the time.

The ethnic intolerance is also shameful. Ethnocentrism, the stereotyping of ethnic groups, and the elements of ignorance and fear are in abundance. A little intolerance is expected in a nation which has more than 80 different nationalities. However, if we don't struggle for tolerance the intolerance will only grow. Although not an easy goal, the current government has taken admirable steps to enhance ethnic harmony.

Ethiopia indeed is a country with "13 months of sunshine." It has some flaws. It is the poorest nation in the world. Does it have to remain that way? Not for long, I hope. With Ethiopians like myself who plan to go back after getting an education, things ought to get better. Now, back to this strange place... □



FEKADU KIROS/The Chart

At the ceremony of St. Gabriel, an Orthodox priest "yasalemale" (blesses people by touching the cross to their foreheads and lips) to churchgoers who approach him.